



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

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MAY, JUNE & JULY 1990

**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
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ISLAMABAD-PAKISTAN**

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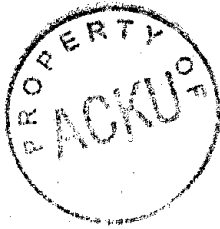
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— Editor

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NOTES

The quarterly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched documents for the benefit of scholars and policy makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare, socio-political and economic developments.

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Primary sources for news report from Mujahideen include: Al-Bunyan News Service, the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, MIDIA despatches, and Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the International Media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of the casualties and material losses given in the Report are only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed of the events.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR) is a Mujahideen Radio Station reportedly based in Mashad.

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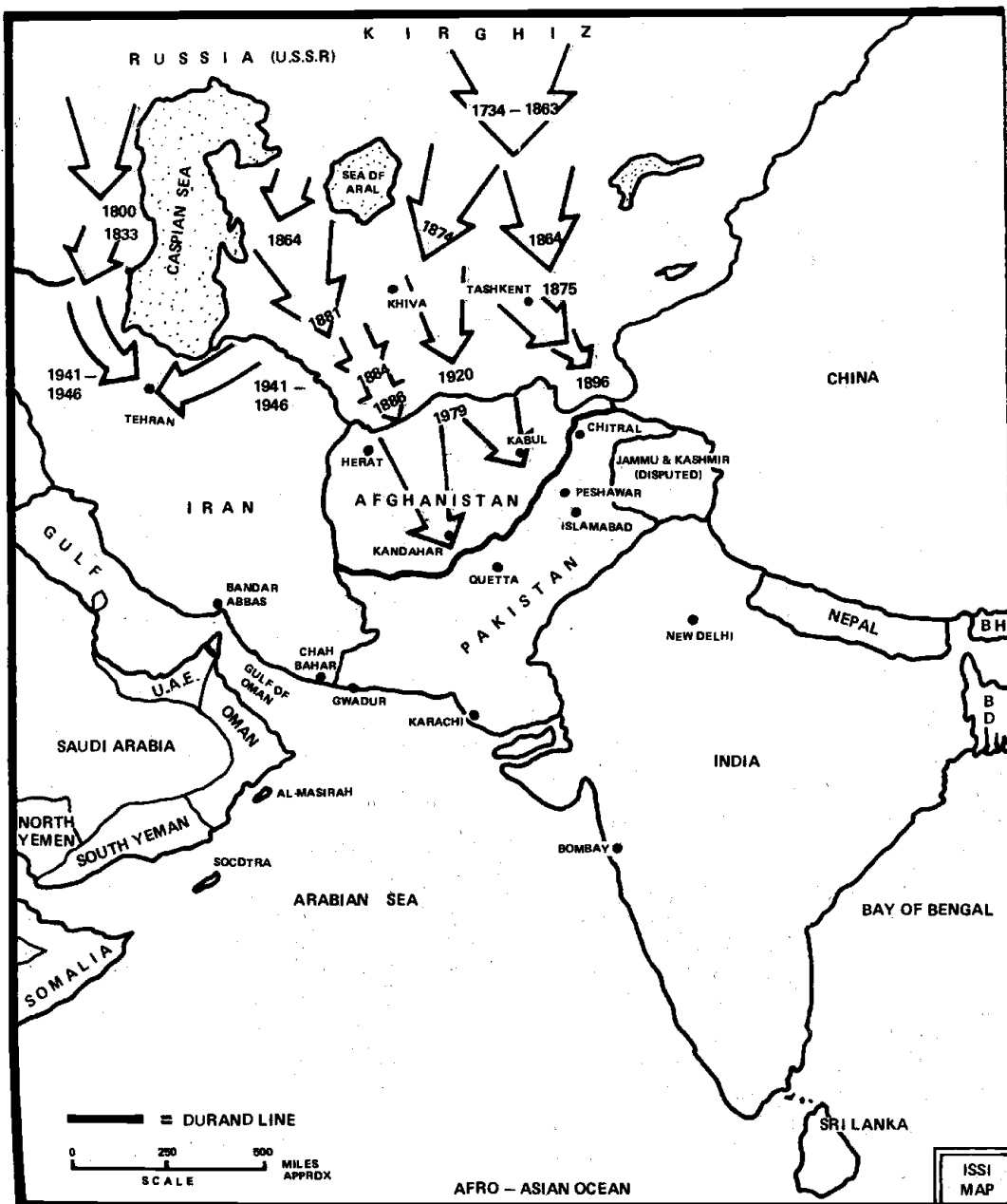
Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during April, May and June 1990.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
The Historical Perspective . . . ISSI Map	
I. The Fourth Afghan War . . . <i>Hasan Akhtar Gardezi</i>	
<i>Mohammad Ashraf Poswall</i>	
1. Afghanistan War Report, May, 1990	1
2. Psychological Warfare Themes	13
3. Afghanistan War Report, June, 1990	15
4. Psychological Warfare Themes	25
5. Afghanistan War Report, July, 1990	27
6. Psychological Warfare Themes	34
APPENDICES	
1. Statistical Picture of the Afghan War	36
2. Province-wise Engagements in May, 1990	38
3. Statistical Picture of the Afghan War	39
4. Province-wise Engagements in June, 1990	41
5. Statistical Picture of the Afghan War	42
6. Province-wise Engagements in July, 1990	44
 II. POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND SOCIO- . . . <i>Fazal-ur-Rahman</i>	
CULTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN . . . <i>Mohammad Umar Khan</i>	
AFGHANISTAN	
1. Political Developments	47
2. Economic Reconstruction & Repatriation	92

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT
MAY 1990

THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

MAY 1990

The tempo of fighting in Afghanistan decreased drastically during April 1990. The number of engagements, 181, was one of the lowest for any month over the past 5 years. So also were Human Losses (936) and Aircraft losses (17). Apparently, the Mujahideen war effort had suffered from cuts in supplies and dissensions in their own ranks. They thus seemed to be changing tactics, relying more on urban guerillas action, as they did in Herat (Pushtoon Zarghoon) on April 6. On that day they sneaked into a government-staged ceremony and killed two generals, one of them being Deputy Minister for State Security, General Jalal Razminda. The governor of Herat, General Fazle Haq Khaliqyar was also strictly wounded. Five lone freedom fighters had the elan of facing perhaps five thousand soldiers point blank. Four of the five got killed..... This showed the strength of the Afghan Resistance, and also its weakness.

On their part, the Kabul regime tried to "buy" rather than fight the Mujahideen. The "surrender" or "reconciliation" ceremony at Pashtoon Zarghoon was in furtherance of that policy..... Only in Kabul province, Paghman district, did the Kabul regime forces venture forth in strength to hit the Mujahideen. Here their aim was to flush out rebels from the hills which overlook vital road communication lines connecting north Afghanistan (and Soviet Union) with the capital Kabul. Kabul itself, and other isolated government garrison towns, depended so heavily on supplies from the Soviet Union. When it came to fighting, Kabul regime relied more on missiles (Scuds) and heavy artillery, that is, Remote Combat tactics rather than Close Quarter Combat. In truth, Najibullah can place little faith in his troops, especially after Defence Minister Shah Nawaz Tanai's coup attempt in March.

There was some fighting in Paktiya, Ningarhar, Logar and Qandahar, but nothing really remarkable to affect the overall situation.

Southern Afghanistan

Nimroz, Helmand, Qandahar, Zabul, Ghazni

There was nil war report from Nimroz province.

Nor was fighting reported by Mujahideen or Kabul regime from the adjoining Helmand province. Nevertheless, BBC, Kabul and Moscow radio stations carried stories on clashes among different Mujahideen groups in Helmand. These clashes took place between guerillas of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami and Maulvi Nabi Mohammadi's Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami near Nad-e-Ali, about 20 kilometres in the west of the provincial capital, Lashkargarh. Radio Kabul stated that Maulvi Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi's Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami had joined hands with Burhanuddin Rabbani's Jamiat-e-Islami against Hezb-e-Islami of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Meanwhile, a military convoy of some 150 Russian-made tanks and 1,000 troops was held up on the highway of Lashkargarh. It was supposed to be bringing in food and ammunition for the besieged government garrison in Qandahar. If the Mujahideen are unable to work our reconciliation among their own ranks, the Najibullah regime would naturally want to take advantage of the situation and move the convoy to Qandahar.

In Qandahar province itself, sporadic exchange of fire continued around Qandahar airport and the adjoining elevated area called Tor Kotal. Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces also clashed in Dand and Daman suburbs of Qandahar city. But, this was only small scale fighting, and neither side

evidently made significant gains or suffered losses. Perhaps the only outstanding activity of the Mujahideen during April was a series of raids inside the Qandahar city. On April 8, urban guerillas hit government troops and establishments in Shehr-e-Nau. Here an 'armoured vehicle' was destroyed and at least four troops killed. On April 17, they fired rockets on Qushlai Jadid area, killing 67 soldiers and busting an ammunition depot.

On their part, Soviet-made aircraft of Kabul regime bombarded Spin Ziyarat and Baba Sahib Kotal areas causing heavy casualties among the local population.

Also in April, a renowned commander of Jabha Nijat-e-Milli in Qandahar, Haji Maghash, expired while offering Traveeh prayers. He had belonged to the powerful Achakzai tribes who live on both sides of Pakistan-Afghanistan border in and near Chaman-Spin Buldak bulge. Haji Maghash was an ardent anti-communist and supported the former king Zahir Shah's return to Afghanistan. He was for convening a Loya Jirga and holding elections under the auspices of the United Nations.

Haji Maghash would be long remembered for his contribution to Mujahideen siege and capture of the strategic township of Spin Buldak, opposite Chaman, on the road that connects Quetta with Qandahar.

Kabul Radio reported on April 5 that the Mujahideen had attacked security posts in and around Qalat-Ghilzai, capital of Zabul, but that there were not any casualties or material loss on their side.

There was a comparative lull in fighting in Ghazni province. Meanwhile, an earthquake in Qarabagh district on

April 3 destroyed hundreds of huts and houses. At least 11 persons were killed.

Eastern Afghanistan

Paktika, Paktiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nooristan

There was not any fighting in April in the liberated Paktika province, where the Mujahideen in the previous month were supposed to have laid the foundations of an airforce. Here they had repaired two abandoned airfields at Urgoon and Sharna. Unconfirmed reports said at least 7 fighters/bombers and 4 helicopters belonging to ex-defence minister Shah Nawaz Tanai's sympathizers had landed in Paktika.

Of course, nothing more was heard about these Mujahideen (or Tanai) aircraft since then.

In the adjoining Paktiya province, the Mujahideen continued battering on the defences of the Khost cantonments. But, the Kabul regime troops, even though clearly outnumbered, were hanging on.

On April 7, commander Maulana Haqqani's men attacked regime security posts near Farm Bagh, south of Khost. Four of these posts fell and the Mujahideen at one stage were within 1,500 metres of the Khost airfield. This local victory made the airport all the more vulnerable to Mujahideen inroads; but, it also exposed Mujahideen to the greater firepower of the well-entrenched government troops. They thus suffered heavy casualties within a short while, and had to pull out from this area.

On April 9, Mujahideen shot down a Russian-made aircraft bombarding Mujahideen positions near Tauda Cheena. The pilot was captured.

On April 11, a curious thing happened. There was a local ceasefire near Khost to exchange dead bodies. On this Occasion, it was stated, the deadbody of an aircraft pilot was also exchanged for two captured Mujahideen.

On April 20, five Russian-made transport planes succeeded in landing at the Khost airport at about 9 O'clock at night. They brought in much needed arms, ammunition and fresh troops. However, one of these 5 aeroplanes was hit and destroyed on the tarmac.

Radio Kabul in its broadcasts on April 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 19, 21 and 23, said that "joint enemy forces consisting of Pakistani troops, Saudi Wahabis and armed extremists" had shelled government security posts in Torghar, Khushal, Lami, Tanai, Karkara and Khost. In "retaliation", government forces shelled rebel positions killing and wounding a large number of "terrorists". The radio also carried the report of the death during fighting of a Pakistani young man from Sindh province, Shakil Ahmed Pathan.

Apparently for propaganda purposes, Kabul radio said on April 19, "Members of the terrorist group of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar have attacked a vehicle of Rabbani group in the Bayan Khel area of Khost. The vehicle was loaded with arms and ammunition. Two members of Rabbani group were killed and three others were injured during the attack". Dissensions amongst the Mujahideen has become one of the major propaganda themes of Kabul media.

Russian-made aircraft of Kabul regime bombed Surkhrud, about 15 km south-west of Jalalabad on the Eid (Akhtar) Day, April 26. Several houses were demolished and some women and children killed. On April 27, they bombed Batikot village which lies on the Jalalabad-Torkham highway in Shinwar district. Possibly, Kabul regime forces in

Jalalabad were repairing the ground to go on the offensive on the Jalalabad-Torkham Highway towards the Pakistan border.

The Commander of the Kabul regime security forces in Ningarhar, General Afzal Lodin told Radio Moscow, April 23, the government troops had inflicted a "crushing defeat" on the rebel forces near Jalalabad. However, on that very, April 23, according to Kabul Radio "armed extremists" had shelled the "outposts" of Jalalabad city. So, the Mujahideen could not have been beaten and crushed.

BBC's Indian-born correspondent Deepak Tripathi visited Jalalabad city – on a conducted tour of foreign correspondents – reported on April 23:

"I, and a Swiss journalist, flew very low in a military helicopter to avoid any missile attack. The journey took just over forty minutes. Jalalabad was under siege by Mujahideen guerillas for more than five months last year, and still comes under rocket and mortar attacks every day. The Secretary of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan in Jalalabad, Faqir Mohammad Wadan, told us that at least ten civilians had died in guerilla attacks over the weekend. But, he said, the situation was much better now with sufficient supplies for one hundred and twenty thousand people of the city. Hardly any building in the city escaped damage from shelling and rocket attacks".

"When we visited an eastern district, we could hear heavy firing a few miles away in the mountains".

There were nil war reports from Kunar and Nooristan provinces. Kabul regime forces have pulled out from these areas.

Northern Afghanistan

Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Samangan
Balkh, Jowzjan, Saripul, Faryab and Badghis

Badakhshan, Takhar and Samangan were quite during April, more or less. Possibly, the belligerents were waiting for the sows to melt on the hills, and the spring harvest, (plums, opricots, oats) to mature in the plains. Or, may be, the three major groups operating in these areas, namely, the Jamiat-e-Islami (Rabbani), Hezb-e-Islami (Hekmatyar) and remanents of the Kabul regime troops (in major towns) had gone on the defensive for reasons of their own. For one thing, in recent months Mujahideen's capacity to take bold initiatives had been substantially reduced due to internal differences.

In Kunduz, Balkh and Baghlan provinces, however, the Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishments in the administrative headquarters, Kunduz city, Mazar-e-Sharif and Baghlan city. They also hit government transport along the main Salang highway and smaller link roads.

A large convey was thus attacked between Mazar-e-Sharif and Daulatabad in Balkh province on April 4. Yet another convoy was ambushed near Taimurak, 20 km from Balkh, on April 13.

On their part, Kabul regime aircraft attacked several rural communities in Balkh. The villages mentioned in this connection included Alamkhel, Baba Yousaf Rahimzai, Elamannuzunkar, Zigzig and Best.

In Baghlan province, regime armoured units attacked Mujahideen fortifications between Nehreen and Pul-e-Khumri, but were forced to fall back with losses. The

Mujahideen followed up with a severe missile attack on military establishments in Pul-e-Khumri area. Here a large ammunition dump was blown up and 5 tanks destroyed or disabled.

Mujahideen sources said that they had hit three tanks and 20 other military vehicles in Kozo Kishlak and Kapisholk areas in shirin Taghab Woleswali of Faryab province on April 4.

An unconfirmed Mujahideen report said that towards the end of March Mujahideen ambushed a party of Khad activists in Quame Abas suburb of Qala-e-Nau, capital of Badghis province. The head of the provincial Khad setup, Bashir, and 4 of his officers were killed in the encounter.

Western Afghanistan

Herat, Farah

Exactly a month after an unsuccessful coup attempt in Kabul by Defence Minister Shah Nawaz Tanai, an audacious group of Mujahideen tried to kill President Najibullah in Herat. Their failed attempt however demonstrated how much hated Najibullah was in all sections of the people of Afghanistan. The 'drama of bloodshed' – as Radio Moscow put it – was witnessed during a stage-managed ceremony near Herat on April 6. Thousands of "guerrillas" and their supporters had supposedly gathered to pledge cooperation with the government in line with Najibullah's Policy of National Reconciliation.

As the ceremony got underway some persons masquerading as "reconciled" Mujahideen stopped singing and started shooting. When smoke cleared, many people were found dead or injured, both from the Afghan government side and among those who had come down from the mountains.

According to Moscow Radio several people, among them two generals, several officers and soldiers as well as civilians were killed. One of the generals was Jalal Razminda, Deputy Minister for State Security. The provincial governor of Herat, Fazle Haq Khaliqyar was critically injured and flown to Kabul for treatment.

The shooting incident was seen and reported by a team of foreign correspondents.

Originally, President Najibullah was also to have attended the ceremony at a place called Pushtoon Zarghoon, a few miles from Herat.

Najibullah had visited Herat in March and met among others "religious leaders". He seemed anxious to gain some notable victory on the "political" front in Herat where the legendary guerilla leader Ismael Khan dominates the countryside.

The shoot out, according to eye witnesses, was a dare-devil contest between five gallant Mujahideen and a large Kabul regime force of regular troops and militia. There also were at least two tanks and some armoured troops carriers which took part in exchange of fire. Probably four of the five Mujahideen infiltrators were killed. On the other hand, they eliminated a much larger number of their enemies, including two generals, and injured the provincial governor. Najibullah eluded death only by chance or craft, whatever it was.

After the Pashtoon Zarghoon incident, tensions in Herat province became acuter. The government holds the Herat city, the airforce complex at Shindand and some other fortified strongpoints along the highway which connect Herat with the Soviet Union in north and Qandahar in the south-

west. The Mujahideen dominate the rest of the countryside. Travel on the highways is possible only at intervals and that under the cover of armour and aircraft.

In the other western Afghanistan province, Farah, the Mujahideen attacked security posts around the capital Farah city on April 5. On April 21, they waylaid a military convoy on the Herat-Qandahar highway in the Darashand sub-division. A large number of tanks and other vehicles were hit and destroyed.

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan

There was nil war report from Bamiyan and Uruzgan provinces.

Meanwhile, in the Hazara dominated Bamiyan province the Wahdat Party seemed to have enhanced influence over the local population. Currently, it was negotiating with the Tehran-based group of Mujahideen. Bamiyan, like many other parts of Afghanistan, is suffering from acute food shortage. And Wahdat Party leaders have appealed to the AIG and United Nations to despatch relief to the famine stricken area.

In Ghor, Mujahideen shot down at Kabul regime helicopter warship in Shahrak district on April, 13. It was hit while approaching an airstrip to land. Russian-made jets of the Kabul regime bombed Mujahideen positions in the neighbourhood after the incident.

Kabul and Shomali

Kabul, Parwan, kapisa, Laghman, Logar and Wardak

Kabul regime forces launched a powerful offensive on Mujahideen positions in the Paghman district of Kabul on

April 10. It aimed at flushing out Mujahideen from a strategic area which overlooks the main road communications between the Afghan capital and northern provinces. The "three-pronged" attack was supported by armour and aircraft. Mujahideen offered solid resistance to the invading troops at Qala-e-Hakeem, Pajab and Deh-Punba. Ultimately they claimed having beaten back the offensive after knocking out several tanks and killing scores of troops.

On April 14, Russian-made aircraft bombed villages in Paghman. One of these aeroplanes was hit and destroyed. Yet another jet was downed in Qala-e-Hakeem area on April 16.

By the end of the month, the bulk of the Kabul regime force engaged in mopping up operations in Paghman district had returned to their bases. A part of it repaired to a hill-top strong-point at Qala-e-Malik, reinforcing the existing garrison there.

Meanwhile, Radio Moscow announced "The people in Afghanistan are receiving food supplies from the Soviet Union continuously. Three hundred and thirty truck loads of wheat and flour were brought to Kabul in the past three days. A large part of the supply is being shared among people in the Opposition controlled areas".

About Mujahideen rocket attacks on Kabul, Radio Moscow said on April 20: "Armed Opposition attacked Kabul this morning, hitting northern parts of the city. At least 5 rockets landed in a densely populated part of the city. A government spokesman told newsmen that the use of powerful rockets by the armed opposition had resulted in large scale casualties among the civilian population".

BBC's Indian-born correspondent Deepak Trepethi said that the Kabul regime had answered the Mujahideen rocket attacks on Kabul in kind. He reported on April 15.

"Afghan troops are firing missiles on the bases of the guerillas in the north of Kabul The rocket, heavy artillery and missiles attack from Kabul garrison started on Friday afternoon. The focus of the attack was on the Paghman mountains, about 15 miles from Kabul, where guerillas bases exist. Afghan official sources say that it was imperative to give adequate reply to rebel rockets from their bases in Paghman area. The sound of rocket and heavy artillery shelling has been heard in the capital over the last few days.

In the adjoining Parwan province, Mujahideen attacked government security posts north of its capital city, Charikar.

There was no war report from Kapisa, the currently quiet domain of Ahmed Shah Masoud.

In Laghman province the Afghan Mujahideen attacked some security posts, killing six servicemen.

Radio Kabul, however, reported clashes between the Mujahideen factions led by Burhanuddin Rabbani and Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in the Alinagar Woleswali. It said heavy arms, including rockets, were used in the fighting.

In the Logar province, Russian-made jet aircraft bombed Kunjak and Niazy villages on April 1. About 100 houses were destroyed or damaged. On the following day, April 2, six Scud missiles were fired on targets in the selfsame area. This time a "restaurant" and 11 trucks were destroyed.

Mujahideen attacked regime troops and installations in and around the provincial capital city, Pul-e-Alam. Here at least one tank and a jet fighter were destroyed. They also hit regime troops in Sashte Saqawa and Tangie Danan areas, which lie on supply routes of the Mujahideen and are often patrolled by mobile military detachments.

Mujahideen reports said that they had besieged Maidan Shahr, capital of Wardak province once again and that fierce fighting was taking place between them and government troops in that vicinity.

Psychological Warfare Themes

Radio Kabul:

Given below were the major Radio Kabul propaganda themes in April 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Kabul regime's initiatives like National Reconciliation Policy, Peace Commission, amnesty decrees and implementation of Islamic System can pave the way for peaceful settlement of Afghanistan problem.
2. Pakistan involvement with "extremists" in the region, Kashmir and Afghanistan, manifests its imperialistic designs on alien territories.
3. Differences in the ranks of Mujahideen, their un-Islamic behaviour and terrorist activities show their lust for money and power.
4. Violation of Geneva Accords by Pakistan, while Kabul and Moscow have implemented their part of the Agreement.
5. Persistent interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Radio Moscow

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes concerning Afghanistan and Pakistan in April 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Differences in the ranks of Mujahideen, their involvement in drug trafficking and terrorist activities.
2. Pakistan's internal and external policies and ISI's patronage of "extremists".
3. The settlement of Afghanistan problem through dialogue and peaceful means is the only feasible way out of the impasse.
4. Pakistan and India's deteriorating relations in the context of Kashmir.
5. Foreign interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT
JUNE 1990

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

JUNE 1990

Kabul regime forces went on the offensive in the eastern Ningarhar province in a big way in May, taking the important road junction Khewa north of Jalalabad, in the process. This could open up the possibility for them to further advance into the completely liberated Kunar province. Simultaneously, they hit Mujahideen strongholds in the Paghman district, northwest of Kabul.

On 23 May, a regime spokesman claimed the government had achieved "great successes" in taking certain "security measures" in a 30-mile area around Kabul. In other words, it had sought to establish yet another security belt around Kabul. And yet, guerrilla attacks only increased towards the middle and later half of the month. Not less than 124 rockets fell on Kabul on 22 May. Twelve of these fell on the Airport. On the following day, rockets in or near the Hotel Intercontinental and embassy buildings of USA, Japan and West Germany.

Also, in May, Kabul regime was able to push through a large resupply convoy to Qandahar. It comprised several hundred vehicles. On its way from Tor Ghundi on the Soviet border to Qandahar via Herat, it was repeatedly attacked and constantly harassed. Towards the end of its long but slow journey it sought shelter from Mujahideen in the fortified provincial capital and cantonment of Helmand, Lashkargah.

The increase tempo of fighting duly reflected in the number of "incidents". Mujahideen sources reported 341 incidents in May, which was 160 more than those accounted for during April. The highest intensity of conflict was witnessed in Kabul (Paghman), Ningarhar (Khewa-Kama) and Paktiya, followed by Laghman and Herat.

During the previous 2 months or so, Mujahideen activity had largely remained confined to Khost. In May, however, they hit Kabul regime troops and establishments in or around Gardez and Siad Karam. Gardez is the provincial capital of Paktiya and Siad Karam the native town of Najibullah. These towns also lie on alternative routes on which supplies could, in certain circumstances, be carried to the besieged cantonment of Khost.

On the political front in Afghanistan, on May 21, Fazle Haq Khaliqyar, the newly nominated Prime Minister at Kabul, introduced a 36-member cabinet to Woleswali (People's) Jirga (Parliament). More than 20 members of the cabinet thus introduced were not believed to be members of Khalq-Parcham factions of the communist party.

Fazle Haq Khaliqyar, 60, belongs to a leading owning family of Herat. He was governor of Herat before appointment as Prime Minister by Najibullah. he was seriously wounded during an armed attack by Mujahideen in the Pashtoon Zarghoon district of Herat on April 6, 1990.

Southern Afghanistan

Nimroz, Helmand, Qandahar, Zabul, Ghazni

The mainly Baluch-Brohi speaking Nimroz province located in the extreme south-west of Afghanistan and bordering on both Iran and Pakistan, continued to be quiet during May. With the exception of the provincial capital Zaranj, where a locally raised militia and some regular troops are billeted, the rest of the desertine territory is free of Kabul regime control. It yielded Nil War Report.

In the adjoining Helmand province, the only notable fighting took place in the vicinity of Lashkargah, provincial capital city, which has an airfield and a fortified cantonment.

Here for over a month had been sheltering a large supply convey of several hundred vehicles, tanks, trucks and armoured personnel carriers. Originating from Tor Ghundi on the Soviet Central Asian border, it had tardily traversed down to Lashkargah via Herat and Shindand. On May 15 it finally lumbered out of Lashkargah: and, before the end of the month, succeeded in reaching the deserted Registan region south of Qandahar city.

In Registan the convoy was attacked by a local commander, named Mullah Nooruddin Akhund. A number of tanks and other vehicles were destroyed. The Mujahideen killed and captured some soldiers, but the convey reached Qandahar. Some reports said the convoy was made up of about 1,000 vehicles, including tanks and APCs. On its way to Qandahar it was doggedly watched and protected by at least four Soviet-made jet fighters and 6 helicopters.

Otherwise, fighting in Qandahar remained subdued. Neither side took any bold initiatives. The Mujahideen nevertheless continued attacking the Qandahar Airport complex off and on. Possibly they hit and destroyed a couple of aircraft.

Radio Moscow reported fresh Mujahideen attacks on Zabul province's capital, Kalat-e-Ghilzai, during May, during which "thousands of rockets" were showered on the tiny township of some 5,000 harassed inhabitants. Among the buildings hit were nine mosques. A large of the civilians were also killed. "The situation in the city" Moscow Radio said on May 21, was "grave". nevertheless local people in the city and the garrison in the Citadel, were "resolute" and determined to hold their own against Mujahideen onslaught, Moscow Radio said quoting its own correspondent in Kalat-e-Ghilzai.

Eastern Afghanistan

Paktika, Paktiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nooristan

There were Nil War Reports from Paktika and Nooristan provinces which have been free of Kabul regime forces for over a year. A third "liberated" province is Eastern Afghanistan is Kunar. From this province, where the Mujahideen have held a modicum of elections and set up an administration of their own, were, however, received reports of several air attacks by the Kabul regime. On May 23 the Kabul regime launched Scud missiles on Asmar and Sarkani in the Kunar valley. Asmar, lies on the highway connecting Jalalabad with Asadabad (capital city) and Barikot on the Pakistani border near Chitral. Asmar had been much in news before the Mujahideen expelled the alien forces from Kunar early last year. Asadabad itself was bombed by war planes targeting bridges and culverts on the Mujahideen communication systems.

Earlier reports said that Soviet-made aircraft had been carrying out heavy attacks on Khewa and Kama in Ningarhar which control the main land route between Ningarhar and Kunar. On May 1-2, they captured both Kama and Khewa districts, and, with it, a stretch of motorable road of about 20 kilometres from their base in Jalalabad.

The focus of the Kabul regime offensive, it would seem, was on the territories south-east and north-east of Jalalabad. This area is adjacent to two highways. One leads from Jalalabad to Pakistani border town of Torkham. The other road leads to Kunar. Meanwhile, Mujahideen positions in Ghaziabad, Samarkhel and Chaprihar areas remained under attack by Russian-made aircraft.

Mujahideen sources admitted that in some areas they had to fall back from their forward positions in Ningarhar. For

instance, they had "shifted trenches" from Adalkhel to Wachtangi. Mujahideen commanders Juma Gul (Khalis group) and Jamal Nasir (Hekmatyar group) were killed fighting Kabul troops in Kama district. Similarly, Mullah Anar, general commander of Ittehad-e-Islami was killed in the same area.

On May 7, 8 and 9, fortyseven Mujahideen commanders from various parts of Afghanistan held a meeting at the Mujahideen base at Zhawar, Paktiya province. Maullana Jalaluddin Haqqani is incharge of the base. At the end of the meeting it was stated that a Coordination Committee should be formed to pave the way for a larger meeting of Mujahideen Commanders from all parts of the country.

Meanwhile, sporadic fighting continued in Paktiya province. On May 1, Mujahideen fired rockets on the suburbs of the provincial capital, Gardez. On the following day they shot down a transport plane bringing in supplies to Khost airfield. Yet another aircraft was hit during a rocket attack on the airfield on May 12.

On May 14 and, Mujahideen attacked regime troops and installations in Sayed Karam and Khost districts. Sayed Karam is the native town of President Najibullah.

Northern Afghanistan

Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Samangan, Balkh, Jowzjan, Saripul, Faryab and Badghis

During May, Kabul and Moscow Radio stations reported "mopping up operations" against Mujahideen in Jowzjan, Balkh, Takhar and Badghis provinces. If these reports are believed hundreds of "oppositionists" must have given up "warlike activities" and assured the authorities of their cooperation with the process of National Reconciliation.

Curiously enough, the Mujahideen too claimed large-scale defections of Kabul government troops and functionaries. Two of the more exciting instances thus cited related to Takhar and Badghis provinces. In Takhar, on May 18, "hundreds" of Kabul regime militiamen appeared before Mujahideen lines and beseeched for surrender and an opportunity to join the Jihad. These troops have previously been based at the Khawaja Ghar cantonment on the southern bank of Oxus river, which separates Afghanistan and Soviet Central Asia. A few days earlier the governor of Badghis province, Abdul Hakim Khan, the Provincial Police Chief, Colonel Gul Ahmed and a high Khad official, Sikandar Khan, had also come over on the side of freedom fighters. Neither of these reports could be confirmed from independent sources.

In Samangan province the Mujahideen launched a daring surprise attack on a large supply convoy of Kabul regime in the Subz Robatak region on the Aibak-Pul-e-Khumri road. At least 6 armoured personnel carriers were knocked out. Similarly, they attacked Kabul regime transport in Baghlan, Balkh and Badakhshan provinces, besides hitting army troops and establishments.

In the Baghshor district of balkh two security posts were over-run.

Russian -made aircraft heavily bombarded Mujahideen positions and villages suspected to be harbouring them in Badghis, Baghlan and Balkh provinces.

Western Afghanistan

Herat, Farah

Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime security posts in Injeel, Adraskan and Kash districts killing more than fifty government troops. A tank of the Kabul regime blundered

into a mine-field in Kala-e-Akhund area in Injeel Woleswali and was destroyed. That happened in the first half of May, when Mujahideen also attacked Kabul regime positions inside Herat city.

On May 23, Mujahideen attacked a Kabul regime convoy on its way from the Russian border at Tor Ghundi to Herat. At least one tank and 3 oil tankers were destroyed. A larger convoy had passed down from Tor Ghundi to herat and Lashkargah last month.

Russian-made aeroplanes of the Kabul regime taking off from Herat and Shindand airfields attacked Mujahideen camps and concentrations in the Ghorian and Zindajan districts. In Zindajan district a tank was captured by Mujahideen.

There was not any fighting in Farah Province. Kabul Radio, however, said on May 22: "Four more families of our compatriots, consisting of 25 persons have returned to Farah province from Iran recently. Eight of these people are staying at Farah Peace Guest House. Others were sent to their villages after being provided with necessary assistance by the state".

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan

Bamiyan was quiet.

Ghor reported only three incidents, two by Mujahideen and one by Moscow Radio. According to Mujahideen sources, Mujahideen had attacked Kabul regime troops on May 17 and 26, killing about 30 troops. Moscow radio on May 25, said: "The Afghan security forces have killed 20 extremists and arrested 1 others in Ghor province. Also in Ghor province, a

group of 12 persons has joined the National Reconciliation Policy of the government and resolved to work for restoration of peace in the area".

Meanwhile, BBC reports received via Chaman-Quetta said that armed clashes had taken place between Pushtoons and Hazaras in Uruzgan province. An Afghan Information Centre bulletin quoted eye-witnesses as saying that some Achakzai (Pushtoon) tribesmen had attacked Hazar-populated areas in Uruzgan, when the latter backed by pro-Iranian Nasr and Sepah organisations tried to clinch their claims on a particular piece of territory. The Achakzai killed 4 Hazaras and disarmed others. The Hazaras, on their part, counter-attacked and captured 4 villages.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul, Parwan kapisa, Laghman, Logar and Wardak

Soviet-backed Kabul government's military operations against Mujahideen strongholds in Paghman initiated in the last week of April, continued over the month of May. Paghman is a hilly area situated 15 to 20 miles northwest of Kabul. The offensive had started with a lot of fanfare and declared intention of flushing out Mujahideen from such close quarters to the capital city of Afghanistan. The much feared (and hated) Jowzjani militia spearheaded the attack under an effective umbrella of a armour and aircrafts. By 23 May the government claimed to have achieved "great successes" in taking certain "security measures" in a 30 miles area around Kabul. In other words they have established a new security belt around Kabul. And yet, guerrillas attacks intensified when a meeting of Tribal Leaders was summoned by President Najibullah to seek approval for his proposed constitutional amendments. No less than 124 rockets fell on Kabul on 22 May alone. Twelve of these hit the airport which was closed for the whole day. On 23 May, rockets fell in or

near the premises of Hotel Intercontinental and embassy buildings of USA, Japan and West Germany. As a result of this several persons were killed.

Rocketing of the city had become not only a daily, but an hourly affair. So, the so-called "successes" of the regime against the guerillas in Paghman could not have been complete and unqualified.

About the same time, some details were received of a Mujahideen attack on an "important position" built by the Russians in the mountains north-east of Kabul. A large number of government troops posted there defected to the Mujahideen. Combining their resources with Mujahideen, they attacked and captured several security posts of the Kabul government. From here they could hit the airport with rockets more easily. From this vantage point, they were only 10 miles away from the airport.

Earlier the Mujahideen blocked the Kabul-Jalalabad highway near Tehmin Tangi.

On 17 May, the Afghan government produced three men at a news conference in Kabul, who, it claimed, were Pakistani spies. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said they were agents of Pakistani's Inter Services Intelligence and were sent to Kabul to help topple the Government of Najibullah. They were introduced to journalists as Basharat Mahmood, Syed Moinuddin and Abdul Rauf.

A typical news item in Kabul Times, 8 May, 1990.

The Pakistan-backed extremists fired two US-made surface-to-surface rockets on the residential quarters of Kabul city yesterday, killing one person and injuring two others. The injured were rushed to the hospital and are under treatment. Financial losses have also been inflicted on the people".

Two Saudi Wahabis have recently been killed in Nadanj and Wozbin areas related to Sarobi district of Kabul province. The report adds that the Saudis had come to these areas to disseminate Wahabism among the local people, which arose the wrath and abhorrence of the people, leading to their murder".

In the adjoining Parwan province along the Salang Highway the Mujahideen kept Kabul regime troops and establishments under pressure. The Bagram airbase was subjected to rocket attacks on May 1, 13, 25 and 26. In these attacks at least one aircraft and five vehicles were hit. Likewise, the Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime security posts near the provincial capital Charikar and the Koh-e-Safi mountains.

There was not any fighting between Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces in Kapisa province. From here Kabul regime forces had pulled out completely more than two years ago. This is considered to be under the effective control of Jamiat-e-Islami's famous guerrilla leader Ahmed Shah Masuod. From this province, however, Radio Kabul, on 25 May, reported "fierce fighting" between the "terrorist groups of Rabbani and Gulbuddin". Quoting Bakhtar news agency, Kabul Radio said that nine persons had been killed during these clashes. Heavy weapons were used resulting in losses to the third party inhabitants of the valley, Kabul Radio said.

During May, Kabul Regime's security posts along a portion of the Kabul-Jalalabad highway passing through Laghman were repeatedly attacked by Mujahideen.

Logar and Wardak provinces too saw sporadic fighting throughout the month of May, both sides suffering human and material losses. Mujahideen news agency MIDIA reported on 27 May that Freedom Fighters had captured an

important security post at Adram on the peripheries of Maidan Shahr. Adram's fall dented the security belt around the provincial capital.

Psychological Warfare Themes

Radio Kabul:

Given below were the major Kabul Radio propaganda themes in May 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Fruitful results of National Reconciliation Policy and Afghan Government's efforts for peace in Afghanistan.
2. Un-Islamic activities of Afghan Resistance groups and their involvement in drug trafficking.
3. Pakistan's undesirable attitude and disastrous policies vis-a-vis the Afghanistan problem.
4. Foreign interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, especially that of United States, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.
5. Geneva Accords violations by Pakistan.

Radio Moscow

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes pertaining to Afghanistan and Pakistan in May 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Deterioration of relations between India and Pakistan on the issue of Kashmir and Pakistan's responsibility in this regard.
2. Political settlement of Afghanistan problem should be preferred to a military solution.
3. Mujahideen involvement in act of terrorism and drug trafficking
4. Accumulation of warlike weapons in Pakistan and development of Nuclear potential.
5. Progress in Afghanistan in various fields including economy, culture and politics, resulting from Soviet-Afghan cooperation and mutual trust.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT
JULY 1990

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

JULY 1990

Throughout June 1990, Soviet-made aeroplanes of the Kabul government Air Force and artillery remained busy in intensive operations against Mujahideen positions around Kabul, chiefly in Paghman valley. The Kabul Authorities had been hoping that these operations, started some two months earlier, and one of the longest during the entire 4th Afghan war would stop guerrilla attacks on targets in Kabul. But, they did not. The Kabul authorities failed to dislodge the Mujahideen from Paghman.

A BBC correspondent who visited an advanced military position 15 kilometres from Kabul in the last week of June reported: "the Mujahideen are operative in Paghman". Indeed, a military commander told him that thousands of guerrillas were present in the nearby mountains.

It would seem that besides Paghman, the Mujahideen held strong positions in Koh-i-Safi, 20 kilometres north-east of Kabul and Khurd Kabul, 19 kilometres south-east of Kabul. From these positions they showered rockets and missiles on targets in Kabul.

In the same Kabul-Shomali section during June, the Mujahideen claimed two significant achievements. In a rocket attack of Kabul's Khawaja Rawash Military Airport they destroyed at least two (possibly 4) aircraft. They also overran an important civil and military centre, Karabagh, a few miles north of Kabul on the Kabul-Bagram highway.

Meanwhile, the Kabul government reported Mujahideen attacks on the cities of Jalalabad and Khost. Long-range guns were used by the Mujahideen in these attacks, causing human and material losses. In the Ningarhar province big

battles were fought in the Shiwa-Khewa sector north of Jalalabad from where a land route forks out to the liberated Kunar province. The outcome of these battles seemed to have remained inconclusive.

Mujahideen also attacked government positions in Qandahar, Balkh, Ghor, Samangan, Baghlan and some other provinces. On the other hand, the Najib Government claimed they had set up new security posts on the highway connecting Kabul with Gardez through the Logar province. It was through this route that they recently had received in Gardez a large convoy of trucks and tanks.

According to the Mujahideen news agency MIDIA 12 Soviet-made fighter/bombers and four helicopters were destroyed/shot down in Afghanistan during June.

Human losses reported by Mujahideen for June were:

Kabul troops casualties:	472 killed,	371 wounded
Mujahideen casualties:	134 killed,	134 wounded
Civilian casualties:	167 killed,	44 wounded

Kabul media reported that during June they had killed 936 Mujahideen and wounded 510 as against their own losses of 51 killed and 69 wounded.

Southern Afghanistan

Nimroz, Helmand, Qandahar, Zabul, Ghazni

There is not any fighting in Nimroz, Helmand and Zabul provinces during June 1990. However, Mujahideen sources indicated a substantial increase in hostilities in Qandahar province. The Qandahar Airport and surrounding fortified area – which has for years served as a cantonment where major arms, ammunition and food depots, as well as,

workshops are located – continued to be the main target of Mujahideen attacks. In addition to that, Mujahideen hit government troops and installations in the Panjwani and Dand suburbs of Qandahar city.

At one stage, June 6, urban guerrillas fired rockets on the Governor House in Qandahar city. A portion of the building was damaged.

Mujahideen claimed that they had destroyed three Russian-made aircraft, a jet transport and two helicopters in Qandahar during June. The transporter was hit with rockets on the tarmac at the Qandahar Airport on June 2. The two helicopters were also destroyed in the same area on June 12.

Kabul and Moscow radio stations and the English language daily Kabul Times acknowledged Mujahideen attacks on government troops and installations in the Mokowan and Torkotal sectors.

They also reported return to Qandahar of some refugees from Pakistan and Iran.

The later half of June did not yield any war reports from Qandahar province: but, Mujahideen claimed they had shot down a Soviet-made aircraft in Ghazni near Robat on June 8. On the following day, June 9, they subjected Ghazni Airport to a heavy rocket attack, which accounted for at least two tanks destroyed.

Eastern Afghanistan

Paktika, Pakiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nooristan

Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces remained locked in battles in the Shiva-Khewa sector, north of Jalalabad during June. These two townships the government forces had seized

from Mujahideen in the previous month. Khewa, lying on a cross-section of roads and mountain tracks, may provide strategic access to Kabul regime troops for further advance into the liberated Kunar province.

According to Mujahideen sources Kabul troops had launched a powerful offensive in this area on June 7. Nevertheless, they fell back after suffering heavy losses in men and materials. Mujahideen too had a number of fighters killed and wounded on their side. They did not state the exact number of casualties.

The Paktiya province witnessed medium scale fighting over the month of June. During this period, the Mujahideen destroyed three helicopters, one each on June 6, 24 and 27. These aircraft were shot down while ferrying supplies to the beleaguered cantonment of Khost. Mujahideen also attacked government troops and installations at the tehsil headquarters of Sheikh Misri in the Khost district.

Western Afghanistan

Herat, Farah

On June 2, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and installations at Pushtoon Zarghoon, a sub-divisional headquarters some forty kilometres east of Herat city. The Mujahideen overran the defences of the military headquarters and captured fourteen vehicles, 200 Kalashnikov rifles and eleven machine-guns, besides three tanks.

On June 19, a well-known militia commander, Arbab Bahaudin surrendered to Mujahideen in Kushk district. This happened after a fierce battle between the Mujahideen and Kabul regime troops. Another 34 "mercenaries" were also

killed. Mujahideen reports said they had seized among other things, a tank, during this battle which was started by the Kabul regime troops.

Meanwhile, a BBC report, 27 June, quoted the eminent leader of Afghan Resistance Movement in Herat province, Ismail Khan, as saying that his forces were facing acute scarcity of food, clothing and weapons. Ismail Khan, a former Kabul Army captain, has over the past 10 years shown remarkable resilience against much superior Kabul-Moscow forces.

The Kabul Times in its issue of 17 June, 1990, reported a clash between two groups of "extremists" (somewhere) in Farah province. Two persons were supposed to have been killed and 13 wounded during the fighting, according to Kabul Times.

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan

There was nil war report from Bamiyan.

From Uruzgan too only one incident was reported by Mujahideen. This related to an attack on a security post in the vicinity of the capital, Tari Kot, in which seven members of the Kabul Army were killed.

Ghor reported comparatively more widespread fighting. On June 10, Mujahideen killed 16 militiamen in Shahrak district. On June 13, they fired missiles on Kabul troops in Tolak district. On June 17, they fired rockets on military installations in Chaghcharan, the provincial headquarters. Later in the same area the Mujahideen captured a Russian-made tank.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul, Parwan, Kapisa, Laghman, Logar and Wardak

Rocket attacks by Mujahideen on the capital Kabul continued during June, despite Najib government claims that they had achieved outstanding "military successes" on the mountains of Paghman from where rockets were fired. BBC's correspondent of Indian origin in Kabul, Deepak Tripathi, was taken to Paghman valley in an armoured vehicle on 23 June. This was his third attempt within two weeks to go to this valley where fierce fighting had been taking place as a result of which hundreds of people on both sides were killed or wounded.

When the correspondent visited a government post some 15 kilometres from the centre of the Kabul city, MiG-21 aircraft of the Afghan government were coming back after bombing the positions of guerrillas in the mountains. During this journey signs of large-scale destruction were visible. Many people had migrated from that area.

A military commander told journalists that some 2,500 guerrillas were still present in the nearby mountains. Deepak Tripathi noted "Mujahideen are still operative in Paghman: and, they can move freely after the sunset".

A Western diplomatic source observed that the Paghman battle had been one of the longest aggressive operations of Kabul regime in the 4th Afghan War. It was initiated some two months ago. As part of the operations the government forces attacked the Sanglakh valley, 35 kilometres west of Kabul, in the first week of June, via Maidan Valley in Wardak province. Mujahideen fighting in Paghman often receive supplies and reinforcement from that direction. Mujahideen reports say that they had not only resisted the advance of

Kabul forces towards Sanglakh, but they had pushed them back to the point from where they had proceeded.

Besides Paghman, the Mujahideen held strong positions in the Koh-e-Safi area, 20 kilometres north-east of Kabul. Similarly, the Mujahideen fired rockets from Khurd Kabul, 18 kilometres south-east of Afghan capital.

Mujahideen claimed some significant achievements in Kabul in June:

On 14 June, they destroyed two (possible 4) aircraft and some tanks during a rocket attack on the Khawaja Rawash (Kabul) Military Airport.

On 18 June, Mujahideen ambushed a military convoy in Dehsabz district on the newly built (by-pass) Kabul-Bagram road. A number of lorries carrying arms and ammunition were destroyed.

On 22 June, Mujahideen broke into and captured the "headquarters" of Qarabagh district. Qarabagh lies on the strategic Salang Highway north of Kabul. Mujahideen claimed hundreds of Kabul regime soldiers were taken prisoner and a large quantity of arms and ammunition seized at Qarabagh. It could not be ascertained if the Mujahideen retained the possession of Qarabagh.

A Soviet-made MiG-21 fighter-bomber of the Afghan Air Force crashed in a residential area of Kabul on June 9/10. The pilot was killed. The plane had been on a bombing mission against Mujahideen guerrillas in the Paghman mountains and was hit by a missile. The crash was also reported by Western media from Kabul.

Also in Kabul city, a military lorry loaded with arms and ammunition blew up causing heavy damage to nearby buildings, on 12 June.

In the adjoining Parwan province, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishment in the vicinity of Charikar, Bagram and Qila Surkh.

There was nil war report from the liberated Kapisa province.

In Laghman province, the Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime positions in the outskirts of the capital city, Mehtarlam, on June 18 and 20.

Logar and Wardak provinces witnessed medium to high intensity fighting during June. From the Mujahideen side Pul-e-Alam (capital of Logar) and Maidan Shahr (capital of Wardak) were the main targets of rockets and missile attacks. Mujahideen also repulsed a Kabul regime attack to cut off Mujahideen communication in Sanglakh valley (Wardak) with compatriots in Paghman valley (Kabul).

Psychological Warfare Themes

Radio Kabul:

Given below were the major Kabul Radio propaganda themes in June 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Mujahideen are terrorists and their unwise policies have earned for them the contempt of the Afghan people.
2. Pakistan's interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan indicates its imperialistic designs.
3. Afghan government's efforts for a peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem.

4. Pakistan is unduly interfering in the affairs of independent Baluch and Pashtoon tribes.
5. The Loya Jirga held in Kabul recently was successful and elicited the appreciation of all fairminded people.

Radio Moscow

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes pertaining to Afghanistan and Pakistan in June 1990, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Pakistan's interference in the Kashmir and Punjab affairs is adversely affecting Pakistan-India relations to a point dangerous for regional peace.
2. Pakistan's economic-political problems can be related to unwise policies of its rulers.
3. A settlement of the Afghanistan problem can be achieved by means of dialogue and not war.
4. Mujahideen are involved in terrorism.
5. Pakistan's acquisition of sophisticated weapons.

APPENDIX - 1

STATISTICAL PICTURE OF THE AFGHAN WAR

Mujahideen sources reported 181 incidents in 20 out of 31 Afghan provinces during April 1990.

These 181 military engagements comprised 33 Mujahideen strikes in one mobile targets and 84 strikes against immobile targets. Kabul forces conducted at least 38 air and 26 ground strikes against Mujahideen fixed positions or groups.

The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Kabul, Logar and Qandahar, followed by Paktiya and Baghlan.

Urban conflict was witnessed in and around 14 provincial capitals, including the major cities of Kabul, Qandahar and Herat.

SOVIET-KABUL COVERAGE

According to Radio Kabul reports security forces conducted 51 operations in 11 provinces.

Kabul media reported that "Counter Revolutionaries" carried out 69 "acts of subversion" in 8 provinces.

DEFLECTIONS

According to Mujahideen reports, about 1,012 Afghan troops defected to Mujahideen on 18 different occasions. Defections took place in 9 Afghan provinces. Major defections were reported from Ghazni, Smangan, Faryab and Badghis. According to MIDIA report dated 30 April, the governor of

Badghis, Abdullah along with 600 other senior civil and secret police officers came over to Mujahideen.

AERIAL LOSSES

Mujahideen guerrillas destroyed/shot down 7 aircraft and 4 helicopters in five Afghan provinces of Qandahar, Paktiya, Ghor, Kabul and Logar, during the month of April 1990. These included two aircraft which were destroyed at Khost Airfield on April 21 and three aircraft shot down during bombing missions in Paghman valley of Kabul province.

HUMAN LOSSES

Human Losses reported by Mujahideen for April 1990 were:

Kabul troops casualties	729	Killed	614	Wounded
Mujahideen casualties	81	Killed	178	Wounded
Civilian casualties	16	Killed	204	Wounded

Human losses reported by Kabul media were:

Mujahideen Casualties	574	Killed	534	Wounded
Kabul troops casualties	54	Killed	128	Wounded
Civilian casualties	16	Killed	204	Wounded

APPENDIX - 2

PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN MAY 1990 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capitals	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimroz	—	Zaranj	—	—
Helmand	4	Lashkargarh	—	—
Qandahar	22	Qandahar	9	3
Zabul	1	Kalat Ghilzai	1	—
Ghazni	1	Ghazni	1	—
Paktika	—	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	21	Gardez	—	—
Ningarhar	4	Jalalabad	—	2
Kunar	—	Chagha Sarai	—	—
Nooristan	—	Nooristan	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	3	Faizabad	—	3
Takhar	1	Taloqan	—	—
Kunduz	8	Kunduz	—	2
Baghlan	13	Baghlan	2	1
Samangan	9	Samangan	2	1
Balkh	10	Mazar Sharif	—	—
Jozjan	3	Shebergan	—	1
Sari-pul	—	Sari-pul	—	—
Faryab	5	Maimana	1	—
Badghis	3	Qala Nau	—	1
Bordering Iran				
Herat	9	Herat	—	2
Farah	3	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	5	Chaghcharan	—	2
Uruzgan	—	Tarin Kot	—	1
Kabul and Adjacent				
Kabul	40	Kabul	3	3
Parwan	4	Charikar	—	2
Kapisa	—	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	—	Mehtarlam	—	—
Logar	24	Pule Alam	1	1
Wardak	1	Koteasro	—	1
Total	181		17	22

APPENDIX - 3

STATISTICAL PICTURE OF THE AFGHAN WAR

Mujahideen sources reported 341 incidents in 24 out of 31 Afghan provinces during May 1990. These comprised of 71 Mujahideen attacks on mobile targets and 146 strikes against immobile targets. Kabul regime forces conducted at least 59 air and 66 ground strikes against Mujahideen.

The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Kabul, Ningarhar and Paktiya, followed by Laghman and Herat.

Urban conflict was witnessed in and around 14 provincial capitals, including the major cities of Kabul, Qandahar and Herat.

URBAN CONFLICT

Urban conflict was witnessed in and around 17 provincial capitals, including major cities of Kabul, Qandahar, Jalalabad and Herat.

SOVIET-KABUL COVERAGE

According to Soviet-Kabul media reports security forces conducted 64 operations in 11 provinces.

DEFECTIONS

According to Mujahideen reports, 832 Afghan troops defected to Mujahideen on 23 occasions. Defections took place in 9 Afghan provinces.

AERIAL LOSSES

According to media reports seven Russian-made aircraft and four helicopters were destroyed/shot down during the month of May 1990. This figure included two aircraft and one helicopter destroyed on the airfields of Qandahar, Khost and Bagram.

HUMAN LOSSES

Human Losses reported by Mujahideen for May 1990 were:

Kabul troops casualties	920	Killed	785	Wounded
Mujahideen casualties	139	Killed	224	Wounded
Civilian casualties	208	Killed	178	Wounded

Human losses reported by Kabul media were:

Mujahideen Casualties	867	Killed	537	Wounded
Kabul troops casualties	151	Killed	94	Wounded
Civilian casualties	107	Killed	225	Wounded

APPENDIX - 4

PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN JUNE 1990 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capitals	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimroz	—	Zaranj	—	—
Helmand	8	Lashkargarh	—	—
Qandahar	23	Qandahar	1	6
Zabul	3	Kalat Ghilzai	2	—
Ghazni	5	Ghazni	2	1
Paktika	—	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	36	Gardez	—	1
Ningarhar	50	Jalalabad	1	4
Kunar	2	Chagha Sarai	—	—
Nooristan	—	Nooristan	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	8	Faizabad	—	1
Takhar	5	Taloqan	—	—
Kunduz	17	Kunduz	1	—
Baghlan	13	Baghlan	—	3
Samangan	1	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	10	Mazar Sharif	2	6
Jozjan	1	Shebergan	—	1
Sari-pul	1	Sari-pul	—	1
Faryab	9	Maimana	1	2
Badghis	9	Qala Nau	—	1
Bordering Iran				
Herat	24	Herat	—	6
Farah	—	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	2	Chaghcharan	—	—
Uruzgan	—	Tarin Kot	—	—
Kabul and Adjacent	—	—	—	—
Kabul	61	Kabul	2	4
Parwan	13	Charikar	—	—
Kapisa	—	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	26	Mehtarlam	—	1
Logar	12	Pule Alam	1	—
Wardak	2	Koteasro	—	1
Total	342		13	37

APPENDIX - 5

STATISTICAL PICTURE OF THE AFGHAN WAR

Mujahideen sources reported 186 incidents in 23 out of 31 Afghan provinces during June 1990. These comprised 29 Mujahideen strikes on mobile targets and 109 strikes against immobile targets. Kabul regime forces conducted at least 28 air and 15 ground strikes against Mujahideen.

The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Kabul, Qandahar and Logar followed by Balkh and Baghlan.

URBAN CONFLICT

Urban conflict was witnessed in and around 17 provincial capitals, prominent among them being Kabul, Qandahar, Jalalabad and Herat.

SOVIET-KABUL COVERAGE

According to Soviet-Kabul media reports security forces conducted 116 operations in 13 provinces.

Figures cited by Kabul media indicated that 936 "Counter Revolutionaries" were killed and 501 wounded. It was reported that Counter Revolutionaries carried out 110 "acts of subversion" in 5 provinces.

DEFLECTIONS

Mujahideen reported 164 Afghan troops defected to Mujahideen on 10 occasions. Defections took place in 7 Afghan provinces.

AERIAL LOSSES

Media reports said twelve Russian-made aircraft and four helicopters were destroyed/shot down during the month of June 1990. This figure included six aircraft destroyed on the airfields of Kabul, Khost, Shindand and Bagram.

HUMAN LOSSES

Human Losses reported by Mujahideen for June 1990 were:

Kabul troops casualties	472 Killed	371 Wounded
Mujahideen casualties	134 Killed	134 Wounded
Civilian casualties	167 Killed	44 Wounded

Human losses reported by Kabul media were:

Mujahideen Casualties	936 Killed	501 Wounded
Kabul troops casualties	51 Killed	69 Wounded
Civilian casualties	77 Killed	257 Wounded

APPENDIX - 6

PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN JULY 1990 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capitals	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimroz	—	Zaranj	—	—
Helmand	—	Lashkargarh	—	—
Qandahar	33	Qandahar	4	3
Zabul	—	Kalat Ghilzai	—	—
Ghazni	4	Ghazni	—	2
Paktika	—	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	5	Gardez	—	1
Ningarhar	10	Jalalabad	—	2
Kunar	2	Chagha Sarai	—	2
Nooristan	—	Nooristan	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	2	Faizabad	—	1
Takhar	3	Taloqan	—	—
Kunduz	1	Kunduz	—	—
Baghlan	14	Baghlan	3	1
Samangan	5	Samangan	1	—
Balkh	13	Mazar Sharif	—	1
Jozjan	2	Shebergan	—	1
Sari-pul	2	Sari-pul	—	—
Faryab	6	Maimana	—	1
Badghis	1	Qala Nau	—	1
Bordering Iran				
Herat	8	Herat	—	2
Farah	1	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	5	Chaghcharan	2	—
Uruzgan	1	Tarin Kot	—	1
Kabul and Adjacent	39	Kabul	4	4
Parwan	10	Charikar	—	2
Kapisa	—	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	5	Mehtarlam	—	2
Logar	14	Pule Alam	—	1
Wardak	2	Koteasro	1	—
Total	188		12	26

APPENDIX - 7

TOTAL MILITARY OPERATIONS (JULY 1990) COMPARATIVE DATA WITH LAST SIX MONTHS

Month		Mujahideen Operations	Kabul Operations	Total Engagements
June	1990	139	49	188
May	1990	218	125	342
April	1990	117	64	181
March	1990	192	79	271
February	1990	160	62	222
January	1990	183	123	306
December	1989	174	82	256
TOTAL:		1183	584	1767

APPENDIX - 8

KABUL AIRLOSSES IN LAST SEVEN MONTHS MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES (JULY 1990)

Month		Helicopters	Aeroplanes	Total
June	1990	4	12	16
May	1990	5	7	12
April	1990	4	7	11
March	1990	5	12	17
February	1990	6	7	13
January	1990	2	15	17
December	1989	8	13	21
TOTAL:		34	73	107

APPENDIX - 9

HUMAN LOSSES IN LAST SEVEN MONTHS (Mujahideen Sources July, 1990)

		Kabuli- Troops Killed	Mujahi- deen Killed	Civilian Killed	Total
June	1990	472	134	167	773
May	1990	920	139	208	1267
April	1990	729	81	126	936
March	1990	598	144	491	1233
February	1990	549	83	120	752
January	1990	738	230	180	1148
December	1989	697	72	127	896
TOTAL:		4703	883	1419	7004

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Super Powers Talks on Afghanistan

The issue of Afghanistan figured in the talks held between the US Secretary of State, Mr. James Baker and the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Shevardnadze in Washington. Apparently there have been further understanding between the two sides. However, the differences on the role of President Najibullah still exists between the two sides. The Americans still insist that President Najib should step down before the elections. But the Russians do not agree to this.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union are getting fed up with the Afghan issue. The Russians are bearing the burden of the expenses for sustaining the Government of President Najib. They can hardly afford to bear this.

Meanwhile, the Americans are rising the question in the Congress whether such a huge assistance is needed to be continued to the Afghan Mujahideen. The fact is that both these super powers believe that Afghanistan is no more a great battle field between East and West.

To be more clear both of them want to push Afghanistan into the same dark era where it stood in December 1979 at the time of the Soviet armed intervention. Unfortunately the super powers cannot forcibly and of their own restore peace in Afghanistan. Besides, neither President Najib nor the Afghan Mujahideen are so obedient as to obey their orders. But Mujahideen solemnly believe that it is their religious implementation to over throw President Najib.

There appears a remote possibility that any workable solution to the Afghanistan dispute can be presented in the May summit between Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Bush. What

seems possible is that the two may cut their aids to the Kabul Government and the Afghan Mujahideen. The Americans may also persuade Pakistan and the Saudi Arabia to follow suit. Nevertheless, even if there is any headway in the Bush-Gorbachev talks on the Afghanistan issue, there is no possibility of this issue being resolved soon. (BBC, 6 April).

Soviet Support General Elections

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, while addressing a press conference in the US State Department on April 6, said that the idea of holding free elections in Afghanistan was not a new one. This proposal was made by the Afghan President Najibullah at the Non-Aligned Movement's summit conference in Belgrade. The Soviet Foreign Minister said that President Najibullah of Afghanistan was ready for holding free elections in the country inspite of the fact that it will be a difficult exercise and needs serious attention of the United Nations. He said that there were already such precedents and elections had been held in Namibia, Nicaragua and other countries under UN auspices. (Radio Kabul, April 8).

The Soviet Union has proposed the creation of a provisional Afghan Government parallel to the Moscow backed regime of President Najibullah. A spokesman for the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad said the provisional government's sole responsibility will be organising democratic general elections. He said it would be established on what he called party basis and would include representatives of Afghan factions in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. He added that the Soviet Union was not opposed to supervision of the proposed elections by the United Nations and the Islamic Conference Organisation. Pakistan which supports Muslim guerillas fighting the Afghan Government has said it wants election before the end of the year supervised by the UN and the OIC. (Radio Australia, April 13).

India Approve Najib's Plan

India has welcomed the fresh moves announced by President Najib to bring about national reconciliation in Afghanistan and hoped that Kabul will assume its rightful place in the South Asian community. Speaking at a banquet in New Delhi last evening in honour of the visiting Foreign Minister, Mr. I. K. Gujral said that Mr. Najib's proposals will facilitate a political settlement in Afghanistan. He said the Afghan people should be allowed to arrive at a political settlement by themselves, taking into account the existing realities and legitimate interests of all concerned. (AIR, 13 June).

Tomsen Interviewed

The US Ambassador to the Afghan Mujahideen, Mr. Peter Tomsen has recently arrived in Peshawar. VOA correspondent has interviewed him about different aspects of the Afghan problem. Here are the excerpts of the interview:-

Ambassador Peter Tomsen said that his latest visit to Pakistan is in fact a part of his routine programme because he is compelled to spend half of his time in the United States and half in Pakistan in meeting the Mujahideen, other Afghans in the world and the leaders of the government linked with the Afghan problem. He said on his way to Pakistan, he has recently visited Germany. Later he held meeting with the leaders of Saudi Arabia and then held talks with government officials in Pakistan. Mr. Tomsen said that he will pay a visit to Quetta within next few days to meet leaders of the Afghan refugees. He would try to spend most of his time in meeting the Mujahideen. Mr. Tomsen said that he also wants to make contacts with the minorities' leaders of Afghanistan to know their view about the settlement of the Afghan conflict.

Regarding the plan of UN Coordinator for Afghanistan Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan for repatriation of the Afghan refugees to their country, Mr. Tomsen said that there are some areas in Afghanistan which have been liberated for the last two years and most of the refugees live near these areas. A large number of Afghan refugees go to these areas and construct their homes there. That is why, he thinks that the United Nations should settle these refugees in every possible areas and help them in this regard, Peter Tomsen added. Mr. Tomsen went on to say that now the government has control over just few cities. The fighting in the surrounding areas has decreased to a great extent and people are resuming their normal life. Mr. Tomsen said that the returnees should be assisted in the field of mine-clearing, installation of agricultural projects and employment. He said that the United States has been providing with people inside Afghanistan aid worth one hundred million dollars per annum for the last few years. He said that this amount is generally being spent on agricultural affairs, medical services and education and training. Regarding other US assistance for the Afghans, Mr. Tomsen said that last year, they sent seventy five thousand tons of grains to Afghanistan and distributed it among the poor families. Such quantity of grains would also be sent to Afghanistan this year. Mr. Tomsen said that the United States would support the Afghans in their just struggle.

About latest Helsinki talks between the Soviet Union and the United States which could not make any progress, Mr. Tomsen said that the question of the People Democratic Party of Afghanistan was a major obstacle in this regard. He said that they told the Soviets that war would continue as long as the present Kabul regime remains in power because none of the Mujahideen leaders is ready to hold talks with Najib. They say the hands of Najibullah party are stained with the blood of the people and they have destroyed more than half of

the country. But the Russians were stressing on the presence of Najib regime and that was the reason that these talks could not make progress. He said that they have told the Russians that if they want they can play their role in removing Najib as they did in case of Hafizullah Amin and Babrak Karmal so that way could be paved for peace.

Mr. Tomsen endorsed the views of Mujahideen leaders regarding March 6 coup. Mr. Tomsen is of the view that there is no difference in Khalq and Parcham and both the factions have stained their hands with the blood of the people. Both the factions are Communists. And like Parchamis, the Khalqis have also massacred thousands of Afghans. Mr. Tomsen condemned the latest political assassinations in Peshawar and said that it is an act of such a secret extremist group whose aim is to prevent the unity of the Afghans for the settlement of the Afghan issue. He recalled the name of Mula Nasim Akhundzada and said that he was a strong Commander and was making efforts for the unity of Mujahideen groups, and the United States had been assisting him in eradicating poppy cultivation in Helmand province. Mr. Tomsen said that culprits should be arrested and punished. He said that they have held discussion with the Pakistani authorities in this regard and have asked for their help bringing the culprits to book. (VOA, April 1, 1990).

UN Envoy Visit Iran

The special envoy of UN Secretary General on Afghanistan Mr. Sevan, held a meeting with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Ali Akbar Velayati on April 5, 1990. In the meeting Mr. Sevan appreciated the constructive role which Iran has been playing for the solution of the Afghan issue. He said Iran has been hosting Afghan refugees for eleven years without any foreign assistance which is commendable.

In the meeting, Mr. Velayati emphasised that Iran has always stressed on establishment of a non-aligned, sovereign and Islamic government in Afghanistan. He said, Iran wants such a solution of the Afghan problem in which betterment of Afghan people is kept in view and rights of all parties are preserved. Mr. Velayati emphasised that Iran was against all kinds of foreign interference in Afghanistan. He said only the people of Afghanistan have the right to decide their future themselves. (Radio Tehran, 6 April).

Number of Soviet Advisors Increased in Afghanistan: Kabul Denies

The Soviet Union is said to have sent an additional two hundred military advisors to Afghanistan since December, following an unsuccessful coup attempt against President Najibullah. Western diplomats said there are now five hundred Soviet military advisors in Afghanistan that is up from three hundred last year (VOA. 15 April).

The Kabul regime has arrested two thousand and six hundred Kahlqis following an abortive coup recently. According to the report after the abortive coup seventy Soviet advisors were sent to Kabul to assess the situation. Before the coup the number of the Soviet Advisors were one hundred and seventy five but now it has reached two hundred and forty five. (Radio Tehran, 25 April).

The Tass news agency reports that a spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry has described as baseless the reports regarding the presence of Soviet advisors in Afghanistan. Addressing a press conference in Moscow yesterday, the spokesman said that there are no advisors in Afghanistan since the Soviet troop withdrawal. (Radio Kabul, 18 April).

Details of the Coup Related Arrests

In Afghanistan, the series of wide-spread arrests started after last month's abortive coup attempt is continuing. The execution of suspected supporters of the rebels has also been started. Western diplomats in Islamabad say that in this connection, according to initial reports, the two prominent leaders of Khalq faction of the Communist Party, Ghulam Dastgir Punjsheri and Dr. Saleh Muhammad Zarey have been executed. These two persons were amongst those seven Politburo members of the party who were dismissed after General Tanai's coup attempt. The sources say that the effects of the set-back caused to the Najibullah regime due to the coup attempt are still visible and President Najib appears to be in a state of dilemma as to whom he should trust upon. The diplomatic sources said the Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil and the Minister for Tribal and Frontier Affairs, Mr. Suleman Laeeq have been dropped from the Cabinet. They have not been given diplomatic assignments but it is not known as yet as to where they have been posted. Official sources in Kabul had confirmed early this month that the Afghan Ambassador to North Yemen, Asadullah Sarwari is absconding since the coup attempt. According to some sources the former Afghan Ambassador to Moscow and a prominent leader of the Khalq faction, Syed Muhammad Gulab Zoi is under house detention in Moscow. He was arrested just before General Tanai's coup attempt but the Soviet government is refusing to shift him to Kabul.

Meanwhile, according to an announcement of the Afghan Foreign Ministry in Kabul, Mr. Muhammad Daud has been appointed as new Afghan Ambassador to Moscow. The sources say that the Najibullah regime has widened the circle of the accused involved in the coup attempt to include relatives and friends of the rebel leaders. Subsequently, the Chairman of the Afghan Academy of Sciences and the Chairman of the

Kabul University have also been arrested besides the Police heads of Jalalabad and Khost. (VOA, April 17).

The Afghan authorities quietly arrested more than one hundred military officers in February over which the then Defence Minister Shahnawaz Tanai was much infuriated because most of these officers were very close to him. Subsequently he staged an abortive coup d'etat on March 6. Although, the pro-Najib troops soon strengthened their position yet deep differences have been created between the Afghan armed forces and the ruling Democratic Party. More than six hundred top figures of the army and party have been arrested. Five hundred and fifty of them would soon be tried at the special military courts. The series of arrests has now again started and Afghan authorities have admitted that eighty military officers and soldiers have been arrested after explosion at a government arms depot. Like the past, these arrests too were made very silently and secretly. However, these are considered a shock for the Afghan forces. The Afghan government in recent years has been greatly relying on the workers of the secret police whose number is about thirty thousand. (BBC, 29 April).

Official Statement

The Afghan government has released details of arrests made after the abortive coup attempt last month. Our correspondent Deepak Trapathi reports from Kabul that Deputy Minister of State Security Mr. Yar Muhammad, has denied reports that thousands of people were arrested following the abortive coup. The Deputy Minister for State Security Mr. Yar Muhammad said that in all 623 people were arrested. Out of them fifty eight were released after interrogation. Remaining 565 are in jail and their role in the rebellion is under investigation. He told that some of them who are suspected of direct involvement in the mutiny are

being tried by a special military court. Some former high officers of the Afghan armed forces and the government are believed to be among these people. Mr. Yar Muhammad said that cases are being prepared against another sixty people. He stated that no one has been awarded death sentence because legal proceedings have not yet been completed against them. He said that thirty people are absconding. They include seventeen. Those, who according to him have fled to Pakistan. Official sources say that majority of those arrested is of militarymen stated to be involved in the mutiny. Others include twenty senior members of the ruling party as well. The Party Central Committee had expelled them last month. (BBC, April 4).

Najib Ready to End PDPA Monopoly on Power

The Afghan President Dr. Najibullah has said that in the past, the ruling party committed serious mistakes and that now it was prepared to end its monopoly on power. Dr. Najibullah was yesterday addressing a function on the eve of the twelfth anniversary of the Afghan Revolution. It was organised in the underground hall of the Foreign Ministry in Kabul.

Strict security arrangements were made on this occasion. The venue and time of the function was kept secret nearly till the last moment. In his fifteen minute address, Dr. Najibullah said that the Afghan Revolution was actually aimed at paving the way for political, economic and social changes in the country. But he said there was external opposition as well as internal opposition. Besides, the ruling party also committed serious mistakes. As a result hostility got prolonged. He said that he had openly invited the former Afghan King Zahir Shah to abandon his exile, return to Kabul and extend help in restoration of peace. It may be recalled the former King refused to accept this invitation. Dr. Najibullah

was very much critical of those who, according to him, were passing a luxurious life abroad and were simply issuing statements. He said that they should play role in restoration of peace in the country. He reiterated that in future the ruling party would end its monopoly on power and that the party Congress would bring changes in the party structure and policies. He added that now it was his objective to find a permanent solution of the conflict through a broad-based government in Kabul. (BBC, 26 April).

Afghans Living in the West Invited to Loya Jirgah

The Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil has said that the Afghan government has invited more than one hundred Afghans living in the United States to attend traditional Loya Jirgah so that they can help in framing the future political structure of Afghanistan. Afghan Foreign Minister, who is in New York to attend a UN session on economic development, addressed a press conference yesterday. He said that the invitations to the former Ministers and political personalities of Afghanistan, now living in America, have been sent to them through Kabul's representatives in Washington and at the United Nations. He said that invitations to the Afghans living in Europe are also being sent so that political dialogue is expanded and preparations for national elections are made. Mr. Wakil expressed the hope that his government will hold Loya Jirgah in Kabul within a month or so. He said that Kabul government has also extended an invitation to the former Monarch now living in Italy, and who is considered key personality for restoration of peace in the country. Mr. Wakil said that President Najibullah intends to invite the local commanders and the Opposition representatives. (VOA, 26 April).

Najib's Denationalisation Steps

The President, Dr. Najibullah has issued a Presidential decree for returning the property to their owners at present

under the state control. The decree comes into force with immediate effect.

“For strengthening the policy of national reconciliation, creating an atmosphere of confidence and trust in the country and drawing the attention to the significant role of private sector in the national economy, the following is approved under the constitution of Afghanistan and the injunctions of Islam”:-

- 1: All that movable and immovable property which is now under the government control for various reasons, should be handed over to their owners or legal attorney.
- 2: That immovable property which is under the use and control of government offices and departments should be handed over to its owner or legal attorney within two months of their appearance in the concerned department.
- 3: If the property is under the use of other persons, it should be handed over to the owner or his legal attorney, since the date of his appearance in the concerned department till the surrendering of the property to his owner.
- 4: If the property has been sold by the government departments or offices, the prices should be given to the owner without charging any commission.
- 5: The money which the government has spent on the maintenance and repair of the property will be charged from the owner or his legal attorney. If the owner or his legal attorney is not in a position to pay the money as a while, it will be charged from them in

instalments upto five years. If the owner or his legal attorney is not ready to pay the expenditure even in instalments the government office or department, which used the property, will buy the property according to the will of both the concerned sides.

- 6: If the concerned government department has spent money on immovable property like factory or business apartment, for expanding its business, the property of the business unit will be handed to the owner in accordance with the following:-
 - a: The money spent by the government will be charged from the owner or his legal attorney.
 - b: In case of the willingness of the owner, the factory of business concerned will be shared by the government and the owner or his legal attorney.
 - c: If the government has shifted equipment from the concerned factory to some other place, its price should be given to the owner or his legal attorney.
- 7: If the owner is dead, the property will be handed over to his legal heir.
- 8: The Afghan courts and foreign-based missions are bound to take immediate steps in case the owners or their legal attorney establish contact with them. (Radio Kabul, March 31).

Kabul Proposes General Elections

Kabul has confirmed its proposal to the opposition to hold general elections under United Nations auspices in Afghanistan, if the Mujahideen stop shelling towns and

agree to negotiations. A spokesman for the Afghan government said in the capital that contacts have been established with various opposition groups in the country and abroad. He described their response to the proposal as quite positive. He stressed that the government was ready to guarantee the participation of all opposition members and millions of refugees in free elections (Radio Moscow, 25 April).

No Possibility of Coup in Future ; Watanyar

The Afghan Defence Minister Muhammad Watanyar has said that he does not see possibility of some other coup against President Najibullah. In an interview with the REUTER news agency he said that he has made transfers of military commanders for preventing another military coup. Watanyar, who himself is a military General, had assumed the Defence portfolio after abortive coup attempt by the former Defence Minister Shahnawaz Tanai in March last. (VOA, 11 June).

Peace Front Emerging

The Kabul regime is discussing the draft programme of the Peace Front which was worked out by special coordinating commission. The Peace Front will be made up of independent political parties and public organisations. At present besides the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan there are eight more officially registered political parties. (Radio Moscow, 23 April).

Kabul Seek, Saudi, Kuwaiti Mediation

The Afghan President, Najibullah has asked Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to play mediation role for the settlement of the Afghan conflict. The people of Afghanistan hope that this

new proposal would be accepted and both the Muslim countries would make efforts to pave the ground for holding talks between the Peshawar-based leaders of the organisations. (Radio Kabul, 18 April).

Kabul Announce Casualties at Jalalabad

The Commander of the Afghan security forces in Ningarhar province, General Afzal Lodin has reported that government troops have given a crushing defeat to the rebel forces near Jalalabad, recently. He said that the situation was under full control of the government. He told newsmen that the Jalalabad fighting which continued for about one year, has now ended. About fifty thousand rebels have either been killed or injured while three thousand government soldiers have also lost their lives in these fightings. (Radio Moscow, 24 April).

Kabul Regime Support Indian Stand on Kashmir

Now Afghanistan has also joined the war of words between Pakistan and India on Kashmir dispute. In a statement, the Afghan Foreign Ministry has accused Pakistan of providing financial and military assistance to the separatists in Indian administered Kashmir in the same way as it has been doing to the Afghan guerillas in Afghanistan for the past twelve years. India has been persistently accusing Pakistan of helping the Kashmiri separatists, whereas Pakistan has repeatedly refuted this allegation. Now Afghanistan too, has levelled the same charge against Pakistan and thus it has openly supported India. India has close relations with both Soviet Union and Afghanistan. (BBC, 14 April).

Kabul Accused UN

Afghanistan has accused the United Nations of neglecting to monitor alleged violations of Geneva peace pacts on

Afghanistan by Pakistan. The Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister said in Kabul that there was no alternative to the Geneva pacts to restore peace in the country. He said Kabul has already fulfilled its commitment of sending the Soviet troops home, but Pakistan is still enhancing its alleged military activities on Afghanistan. (AIR, 15 April).

Conciliation With Kabul, Without Najib

The Pakistan-based Afghan Mujahideen Interim Government President, Sibghatullah Mujaddedi has said that they would not reconcile with the Najibullah regime for seeking political solution of the Afghan problem. According to a Reutor report, he said that if Najib is sincere then he should resign before elections. He said if such situation arises then it will become possible for both the sides to nominate a commission and formulate necessary arrangements for election. (Radio Tehran, 25 April).

Gailani Supports Elections

Pir Ahmed Gailani has come out in support of holding general elections in Afghanistan. Mr. Gailani said he would not accept elections supervised by the Kabul Administration but he suggested that individuals who won elections in government controlled areas could take part in the traditional assembly with successful candidates from other areas to choose the new government.

Mr. Gailani's statement comes as guerilla leaders and senior Pakistani officials prepare to discuss the new political formula beginning to emerge in talks between the United States and the Soviet Union. Differences still exist between the super powers but they have been narrowed in recent weeks with both sides agreeing that general elections may be the best way to end the long running war. The main issues to

be resolved are that who should run and who would supervise any polls. Until now Afghan guerilla leaders have vehemently ruled out any participation by President Najibullah's ruling Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the PDPA. But informed sources say Washington would like to see the kind of general elections that for example Eastern European countries and Nicaragua have organised. Where the ruling Communist Parties participated at last. (BBC, 22 April).

Mujaddedi Comments on Elections

About holding of elections, Sibghatullah Mujaddedi said that talks were still in progress with the Iran-based Mujahideen groups and Pir Syed Ahmad Gialani had visited Tehran twice. He said that such proposals were under discussion which could pave the way of elections. He expressed the hope that all the Afghan people will take part in the coming elections. Referring to the traditional Loya Jirga of Afghanistan, Professor Mujaddedi said that the next leadership of Afghanistan should be selected through this Jirga in accordance with the Islamic principles. He said that the six Peshawar-based groups have agreed to hold elections in Afghanistan after an agreement with the Iran-based Mujahideen. He said that elections would be held in almost two hundred and seventeen constituencies of Afghanistan. Ten people will be elected by the people in these constituencies who will later decide about the future leadership of the country. The President of the Mujahideen interim government maintained that the history of Afghanistan was full of such Jirgas. The members of the earlier Jirgas were nominated but we give the right to the people to elect their representatives themselves and send them to Loya Jirga.

Iran-base Leader's Comments on the Current Situation

In an interview, the leader of Harkat-e-Islami, Sheikh Mohammad Asif Mohsini was asked about the recent coup

attempt in Kabul and interim government's plan for the elections.

"The recent abortive coup was an attempt by an absurd against another absurd. We condemn both the sides and do not support them however the coup attempt has weakened Kabul regime.

Referring to unity within the ranks of Afghan Mujahideen groups, Mr. Mohsini said that after the liberation of Bamyan, we have held talks about unity. All the groups agreed that unity was necessary for them, however, we have so far not held the final talks. We hope that our talks will give positive results. To another question, Mr. Mohsini said, 'We will soon hold talks with the Iran-based Mujahideen groups about the elections. I, on behalf of my group have tried to convince the interim government in this connection. I have no objection to the elections because war is continuing in our country and it is possible that fighting between various groups may intensify inside Afghanistan. However, fair elections are not possible as the field commanders will pressurise people with the barrel of gun. There exists another problem and that is about the constituencies of the elections, because the constituencies formed during the Daud Khan period were only a show piece. The interests of the people were not kept in mind during the population census. The other issue is that of future of Afghanistan refugees living in foreign countries. Mr. Mohsini added that it would be far better if all the Mujahideen groups form a supreme council for the Jihad instead of holding elections.'" (VOA, 31 March).

Burhanuddin Support Kashmiris

The MIDIA reports, a meeting was held by the Jamiat-e-Islami at its headquarters in Chamkani. At this meeting the Chief of the Jamiat-e-Islami and the Minister for

Reconstruction in the interim government, Burhanuddin Rabbani expressed solidarity of the Afghan Mujahideen with the Muslims of Kashmir and assured them of the support of the Afghan Mujahideen for their freedom struggle. Mr. Rabbani said that the Afghan Mujahideen will support Pakistan in case India attacked the former. Midia has reported that in his speech, the Chief of the Hizb-e-Islami (Khalis group) and the AIG Home Minister Maulvi Younus Khalis also expressed sympathy with the people of Kashmir. (VOA, 25 April).

Mujahideen Reject US Allegations

The Interim Government of the Afghan Mujahideen has rejected the US allegation that some Afghan Commanders are involved in the production and trafficking of drugs and described it a conspiracy of Washington against the Afghan Mujahideen.

The AIG Interior Minister said that the production of poppy is prohibited in Islam. He said that destruction of drugs is a part of their struggle. He said that anti-Islamic forces are trying to impose un-Islamic government on the Afghan people. He said that these forces want to hold election under the UN auspices and send pro-Soviet and Zahir Shah's supporters which are ready to serve the US interest in the region. (Radio Tehran, 6 April).

Mujahideen Accused for Drug Production and Trafficking

The United States has told the Afghan Mujahideen to stay out of the drug business or risk losing support for their fight against Afghanistan's Communist Government. Assistant Secretary of State, Melvyn Levitsky made the remarks at a news conference in Islamabad at the end of three-day visit to Pakistan. He said, he told the Mujahideen that if there are

sufficient evidences that they support drug production and trafficking, Washington would not be able to assist them. (VOA, 2 April).

Tanai's Press Conference

The former Afghan Defence Minister who led an abortive coup attempt some days back has answered the questions of journalists on wireless. General Shahnawaz says that now he is in a mobile military base in the suburb of Kabul and the Army officers loyal to him are making contacts with the Army officers in Kabul, Ningarhar and Paktia areas to act against the Kabul regime leader, Najibullah and topple his regime. Shah Mehmood Miankhel from Peshawar reports:-

Firstly, General Tanai read out his message on wireless and then answered the questions of Pakistani and foreign journalists. General Tanai said that Kabul regime leader has arrested a number of party members and expelled them from the party on the charges of having hands in the coup attempt. He said there exist severe differences in the Army of the Kabul regime and Najib wants to kill his own people through foreign forces. The former Afghan Defence Minister, General Shah Nawaz Tanai said that the Kabul regime leader Najib would be responsible for further bloodshed in Afghanistan. General Tanai asked all the officers of the Afghan Army to overthrow Najib in order to end the bloodshed in Afghanistan. He added that the wrong actions committed by the Afghan Army in the past could only be forgiven if they remove Najib government and pave the way for the formation of an Islamic government in Afghanistan. He said that officers of the Afghan Army should not fall prey to the propaganda campaign of Najib. Najib has always been making propaganda that those officers and soldiers of the Afghan Army who defect to the Mujahideen would be killed. General Tanai urged the officers to join the ranks of their

nation like the Romanian Army in overthrowing dictatorial regime of Najib. General Tanai dismissed the reports that he has launched uprising against the Najib government for the Mujahideen. He added that the Army should not take part in politics in the future. General Tanai said that the uprising is still continuing.

When asked by a journalist that if the uprising succeeds and leaders of the uprising take over in Kabul, how they could maintain peace in Afghanistan, General Tanai replied that a revolutionary council will be formed with the consensus of Mujahideen joint forces and power be transferred to an elected Islamic government. In reply to other question, Tanai said that he has directed officers loyal to him for an appropriate action. He said that for this purpose, General Dost Waziri, General Qadir and General Ghulam Hazrat alongwith a number of Army officers have gone to the areas around Ningarhar, Paktia and Kabul to make contacts with Army officers, General Tanai was asked that if his and Hizb-e-Islami plan succeeds, the Hizb-e-Islami would never accept him in the government and he would be the first man to be removed from the way because the Mujahideen consider him as a Communist. Tanai said that he was not worried at all in this regard. He said that their uprising has shown that unity between the Army and Mujahideen is possible. General Tanai denied the reports that first Najib took action against him during the coup d' etat. Tanai said that first his supporters initiated the plan and later Soviet jet fighters bombed their Commanding Centre and their contact with the Army units was lost. When asked that they had been making claims of the support of the Army, why the Army units have so far not supported them, General Tanai said that they have asked the officers to organise themselves and time will prove as to who enjoys the support of the Army. When General Tanai was asked he is said to be under the control of the Pakistan military intelligence the ISI, is it true or not?

General Tanai said that he was now speaking from a mobile base in the vicinity of Kabul and if some body have any doubts, he can meet him there.

General Tanai was asked if it is true that before the staging of coup, an agreement was reached between the leaders of Hizb-e-Islami and you that if they take over then Saleh Muhammad would be the Head of the State, Hikmatyar the Prime Minister and he (Tanai) himself would be become the Defence Minister, he said that there is no truth in these rumours. When General Tanai was asked that how he describes Najib as a traitor and dictator, was he himself not a big dictator and traitor than Najib one year ago when they had been continuing fighting against the Mujahideen in Jalalabad? He said that they admit their mistakes but Najib is still continuing his dictatorship and throwing the people of Afghanistan in the flames of war to perpetuate his rule. (VOA. April 1, 1990).

Governor of Ghor Surrendered to the Mujahideen

Afghan Mujahideen sources report that the Governor of the Ghor province, Mr. Abdur Rehman has, alongwith his four hundred soldiers and various types of weapons surrendered to the Afghan Mujahideen. According to the report, he went to the area of Jalwanazar of Shahrat Uluswali recently for the construction of Kabul regime military posts. He was unable to stand the attacks of the Afghan Mujahideen and had to surrender to them. (VIRA, 15 April).

Mujahideen release Prisoners

On the eve of the holy month of Ramzan, the Afghan Mujahideen have released forty prisoners of Kabul regime. Quoting a spokesman of Afghan Mujahideen, Muhammad Yaqub Sheharyar, the Central News Unit reports from

Islamabad that there are two high ranking officials of Kabul regime among the released prisoners. (Radio Tehran, 1 April).

Afghan Mujahideen Leaders Hold Talks With Velayati

The leaders of the Afghan groups, Maulavi Nasrullah Mansoor, Qazi Amin Waqad and Maulavi Rafiullah Muazzin called on the Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati and held talks with him today.

During their meeting while appreciating the stand of the Islamic republic of Iran, its concern with Afghanistan problems the leaders of the Afghan groups said that most important thing is to establish an Islamic government in Afghanistan and to let the people of that country to decide their fate by themselves.

While welcoming the step taken by the Shia Afghan groups for unity and the formation of Hezb-e-Wahdat they said that all the Afghan groups form a single and joint front which should be the representative of all the people of Afghanistan.

They also stressed the need for establishment of a congress comprising all the struggling Afghan groups in Iran. In response the Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr. Velayati while referring to the Iran's cordial relations with the Afghan Mujahideen stressed the need for further understanding among the Muslim groups of Afghanistan to achieve their common goal and he also reiterated all out support of the Islamic republic of Iran to the Muslim people of Afghanistan. (Radio Tehran, April, 19, 1990.)

Loya Jirgah Convened

The traditional and historical Loya Jirga met in Kabul today under the chairmanship of President Najibullah. The Jirga is being attended by seven hundred and seventy-two delegates, including members of the parliament, members of the government, Vice President, Provincial Governors and representatives of the people.

The Bakhtar correspondent reports that President Najibullah read out the report about the developments during the past one year falling between the two Loya Jirgas. He threw light on the efforts of the government for implementing the policy of national reconciliation and materialising the obligations, assigned by the last year's Loya Jirga. (Radio Kabul, 28 May).

In Afghanistan, the Supreme Peoples Assembly, the Loya Jirga has approved amendments to the country's constitution. These include the renunciation of its monopoly on power by the People's Democratic Party and greater freedom for private enterprises. (Radio Kabul, 29 May).

The Loya Jirga which was convened in Kabul concluded today with a speech by the Afghan President, Dr. Najibullah.

The Jirga also issued message to the opposition commanders, Afghan refugees, opposition leaders in foreign countries and the UN Secretary General and Organisation of Islamic Conference.

In his concluding speech, President Najibullah said that the Afghan people should abandon their mutual hostilities and work for strengthening peace in the country. (Radio Kabul, 29 May).

Emergency Lifted in Afghanistan

The Afghan President. Mr. Najib has lifted the state of emergency existing in the country for more than a year.

Radio Kabul reported that this will restore to parliament, the powers delegated to the cabinet after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces in February last year.

The Radio said the decree is meant to pave the way for a speedy implementation of national reconciliation. (AIR, 3 May).

Khaliqyar New Afghan Prime Minister

President Najibullah by issuing a decree, has named Fazle Haq Khaliqyar as Prime Minister of Afghanistan, under the Constitution of the country. (Radio Kabul, 7 May).

New Afghan Cabinet

The new Prime Minister of Afghanistan Mr. Fazle Haq Khaliqyar has announced his cabinet. It has thirty-six members and all the key portfolios remain with the ruling People's Democratic Party.

In the new cabinet, Foreign Affairs, Defence, State Security and Interior all remain in control of the People's Democratic Party. Three of the six Deputy Prime Ministers are also senior party members. Other Ministers are mainly Democrats, but without any political base. Some have been associated with previous governments of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. However, the Minister for Communications, Saeed Naeem Alvi who will also be incharge of Broadcasting has significantly not been associated with the Afghan Secret Service. After the

announcement sceptic will probably remain sceptic but for others the litmus test will be in how independently the new cabinet functions in the coming weeks and months. (BBC, 22 May).

New Appointment

Under a decree, President Najibullah has appointed Sultan Ali Kishtmand as First Vice President of the country. (Radio Kabul, 6 May).

Constitutional Amendments Under Consideration

President Najibullah, by issuing a decree, has announced the formation of a Commission for bringing about amendments in the Constitution of the country, with Vice President Abdur Rahim Hatif as its Chairman. The Commission will have fifty-six members representing various social and political organisations, government organs and departments, including the Prime Minister-designate, Fazle Haq Khaliqyar.

The commission has been assigned with the task of preparing a draft to bring about amendment in the Constitution for the sake of peace, national coherence, expanding and strengthening national reconciliation policy and for ensuring the participation of more forces in country's affairs. (Radio Kabul, 7 May).

PDPA Undergoing Reforms

An important and influential member of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Mr. Frid Misdaq has strongly criticised the previous policies of the party and has announced reforms of important nature. Addressing a press conference in Kabul on 30 April, 1990, Mr. Misdaq said

during the last twelve years, the country saw a democracy of bombs and tanks in which the party lost its members and allies. Such agricultural reforms were made which neither fulfilled the demands of the time nor served the interests of the Afghan society. Giving frank replies to foreign correspondents' questions, Mr. Misdaq said the PDPA imitated the communism of the Eastern Europe and gave the people rifles instead of spades.

He said the PDPA was established when Marxism and Leninism were a fashion and the leaders of the party considered themselves as patron of the PDPA. But, he said, now the party has been committed to end its semi-communist role and wants to assume the shape of a true national democratic party.

Mr. Misdaq is a close colleague of Mr. Najibullah and has speedily emerged on top in the leadership of the party. What he said appears to be a warning from the side of Mr. Najibullah himself that internal differences in the party should not become hurdles in the way of reforms. (BBC, 1 May).

Najib Interested to Establish Contacts With U.S.

The Afghan President Najibullah received correspondent of THE NEW YORK TIMES, Mr. John Berns for an interview in Kabul on May 3rd, 1990. President Najibullah said that the US has increased supply of the arms to the armed opposition groups both qualitatively and quantitatively in the recent years. He said that the Afghan authorities have captured a number of Stinger missiles from the rebels during military operations besides buying of several others from the commanders of the armed opposition groups. The number of these missiles reach several dozens. President Najibullah said that some foreign countries have several times requested

him to sell these missiles to them at a high cost but the Afghan government does not want to do so because it will help international terrorism. He remarked that Afghanistan is ready to sell these missiles to the US at the fixed rate. Najibullah hoped that the US would extend help to Afghanistan in the construction of a hospital where the drug addicts would be provided medical treatment as the US expressed its desire to control drug production and its smuggling. He hoped that the US would give positive response. (Radio Kabul, 3 May).

The Summit meeting between President Bush and President Gorbachev is to take place in Washington after few weeks. Afghan Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil has said that the Afghan regime wants direct dialogue with the United States with regard to the Afghan issue.

The Afghan Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil during an interview to BBC was cautious that the Soviet Union to which he called a neighbour and friendly country should not be put into worry. The Kabul regime always keeps the Soviet Union well informed about the on-going internal political process in Afghanistan. However, Mr. Wakil stated clearly that the consent of the Afghan government would be imperative on any possible agreement to be reached between the two super powers because Afghanistan was a sovereign country. The United States which supports the Afghan gurreillas has so far been refusing to have any dialogue with the Kabul regime. The United States wants that as part of a comprehensive agreement, President Najibullah should quit his office before the holding of elections. Mr. Wakil said that recent US statements did indicate some changes in the American stance but there has been a change in its policy about the on-going war in Afghanistan. (BBC, 7 May).

Najib for Intra-Afghan Dialogue

The Afghan President, Najibullah in an interview to the Egyptian daily AL-AHRAM said that his party would quit power if it suffers defeat in the elections under the UN supervision. According to an AFP report, President Najibullah has said that he is confident about his success in the elections. Najibullah called upon the Mujahideen to begin talks without any pre-condition. He said that he would not quit power before the start of talks. (Radio Tehran, 8 May).

A Delegation From Kabul Visit China

The judicial delegation of the Supreme Court of Afghanistan, led by the Chief Justice, Nizamuddin Tehzeeb returned home today after attending a conference. During its stay in China, the Afghan delegation also had meetings with the Chinese Prime Minister, the Chairman of the Chinese Supreme Court and a number of senior officials of that country. (Radio Kabul, 8 May).

Seven Governors Killed in 15 Months

In Afghanistan, government has given figures of the losses taken place as a result of Afghan Mujahideen's operations. According to the government statement the Afghan Mujahideen killed seven governors during the last fifteen months after withdrawal of the Soviet troops from the country and a big number of civilians have been killed due to Mujahideen's rocket attacks. (BBC, 12 May).

Some Mujahideen Plans to Hold Loya Jirga

Afghan resistance forces say that they will hold a Loya Jirga within next two months. This was disclosed by Syed Ahmad Gialani, the Chief Justice in the Afghan Interim Government and Chief Election Commissioner.

Mr. Syed Ahmad Gialani said that the election plan of Loya Jirga is similar to the one presented by the Prime Minister of the Afghan Interim Government, Professor Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf four months ago. He said that ten members each from every Uleswali or constituency would come and they would be elected after consultations with Ulema, elite and Commanders of the Uleswalis. He added that there are two duties of the Loya Jirga; one is the election of the head of State and the second is the formation of National Parliament. Later, the head of the State would appoint the Prime Minister and later Prime Minister and the cabinet would seek vote of confidence from the National Parliament. Mr. Gilani further said that the head of State would also appoint a Commission to draft the basic constitution. Mr. Gialani went on to say that they have also considered the arrival of representatives from the areas controlled by the Kabul Regime. Mr. Gialani said that they have also considered the idea of encouraging all prominent political figures and intellectuals living abroad to participate in the Loya Jirga. He said that the OIC and the United Nations can still help pave ground for holding Loya Jirga inside Afghanistan.

Mr. Gilani said that all the six component organisations of the AIG have agreed to the plan. He said that they have also invited other independent organisations and the Iran-based organisations to take part in the Loya Jirga.

He said that Jirga and Shoora are one and the same thing with the only difference that Jirga is a Pushto word while Shoora is an Arabic word.

Asked whether the former Afghan monarch, Zahir Shah can take part in the Loya Jirga, Mr. Gialani said that every Muslim Afghan can take part in the Loya Jirga in accordance

with the will and aspiration of the people of Afghanistan. Mr. Gialani did not give clear answer to the question in connection with the participation of women in the election and Loya Jirga. (VOA, 23 May).

Hikmatyar on Elections by AIG

Mr. Hikmatyar has expressed his suspicion regarding the election plan proposed by six organisations and said that he did not believe that they were sincere in forming an elected Shoora. He said that this was the second time that they had pledged for holding elections but had failed to honour their promises. It seems that the election plan is aimed at prolonging the tenure of the dissolved government. He added, on the one hand, these organisations are talking about election but on the other they also are talking about induction of ten members from amongst elite, Ulema, Commanders and National elders from each Uleswali. The Hizb-e-Islami Chief said that they would not participate in the formation of the so-called Shoora nor they would accept it. He further said that they would stress till last moment that the Afghans be given the right to elect their representatives and form a comprehensive and elected Shoora which could frame a new basic constitution and form government. (VOA, 27 May).

Field Commanders Emerging as a Political Force

Mujahideen commanders inside Afghanistan have decided to form their own Advisory Council.

Thirty seven Afghan Mujahideen commanders fighting inside Afghanistan against the Kabul government have begun work for the formation of a new Council (Shoora) jointly with their supporters. During a meeting in a Pakistani border town, Miran Shah last week, they warned in a communique, without giving name of any organisation,

that any settlement reached without direct participation of the Mujahideen commanders and against the wishes of the Muslims be rejected totally.

Meeting of the commanders was held on 7th, 8th and 9th of this month. In the meeting of its kind, besides Mujahideen of the major parties, commanders belonging to small organisations also attended it. They included prominent commander of Hazarajat, Mohammad Hassan Syed Jagaran, Ustad Mohammad Ishaq of Bamyan, Dr. Shahrukh Karan of Kabul, Commander Abdul Haq of Kabul, Mullah Shirin Akhund and Mullah Malang of Kandahar, Commander Khyal Mohammad of Ghazni, Maulvi Hanif Ali of Laghman, Commander Abdul Jabbar of Jauzjan, Maulvi Jalaluddin Haqqani of Paktia and Mohammad Amin Vardak of Vardak province.

In reply to a question, Commander Vardak said that no approval for holding the meeting for the formation of the Council was taken from the interim government of the seven party alliance, as it had no link with them. He insisted that Mujahideen commanders are not forming any front against the interim government. However, on further query, he said that the first objective of commanders' council is to organise military operations.

In its resolution the council of commanders has made it clear that actual reason for resistance of Afghan people was that the Soviet Union had imposed an illegal government on them and had compelled million of people to leave the country. It is said in the resolution that any formula contrary to the basic principles of our resistance will not be accepted. (VOA, 13 May).

Nine Parties Merge as One in Iran

In his meeting with the members of the nine-party alliance of the Afghan Mujahideen today the leader of the

Islamic Revolution, Hazrat Ayatullah Khamenei welcomed the establishment of Wahdat-e-Islami party and stressed the need for unity in the Muslim nation and Mujahideen of Afghanistan. He described the Afghanistan issues as an important event of the world in the present time. He described the victory of the Afghan Mujahideen over the occupant powerful Russians as a verdict of the Almighty Allah.

He described the movement in the way of God as Victory for all the Muslims. Highlighting the significance of unity he said that all-out sincere coordination among all the Afghan Mujahideen particularly among Shia Mujahideen can pave an effective way for cooperation in a wide framework. (Radio Tehran, 27 May).

Afghan-Central Asian Connection

A spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry in a briefing in Moscow reported today that Afghan armed opposition is going to carry out some subversive activities in the Soviet Central Asian Republics. For example, a Mujahideen Commander active in northern Afghanistan, Ahmed Shah Masood has ordered Commanders of his Mujahid units deployed in Balkh and Takhar provinces to carry ten thousand anti-Soviet pamphlets and hundreds of pistols to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Foreign Ministry emphasised that we would naturally take effective measures to foil these plans. (Radio Moscow, 16 May).

AIG Criticise Pakistan Government

The President of the Interim government of Peshawar-based Afghan Mujahideen, Sibghatullah Mujaddedi announced yesterday that the Pakistani government was not fulfilling the needs of the Afghan Mujahideen as required.

Reporting this IRNA has quoted Sibghatullah Mujaddedi as saying that the Pakistani government has still not recognised the interim government of the Mujahideen, the reason for which was not clear to them. (Radio Tehran, 19 May).

Mujahideen Offices Closed in Quetta

A source of the Muslim Mujahideen has reported that the Government of Baluchistan has banned the private activities of the Mujahideen groups (Parties) in Quetta and all the offices of these parties have been closed in the city.

AFP reports from Quetta that the local authorities have only allowed the Interim Government to carry out its activity in the city. A Minister of the Baluchistan government has also confirmed the report about the closure of the office of the Mujahideen in Quetta. (VIRA, 12 May).

Pakistan and Iran Agrees to Elections in Afghanistan

According to reports Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in her talks in Tehran has reached an agreement with Iran regarding possible elections in Afghanistan.

Speaking through Radio Tehran today, the Iranian First Vice President, Mr. Habibi said that both Iran and Pakistan have reached an agreement about holding free elections in Afghanistan. He added that Afghanistan must have a sovereign government, which should certainly have an Islamic identity, under the purview of geographic and historic position of the country. The most significant point which according to Mr. Habibi, Iran and Pakistan have stressed was that women should also take part in general elections in that country. The agreement is contrary to the assertion of most of Peshawar-based fundamentalist leaders

who have been saying in the past that only men could take part in elections in Afghanistan. The fact that Ms. Benazir Bhutto has reached an agreement with Tehran, regarding the possible general elections in Afghanistan shows that she has been going ahead with her policy. (BBC, 16 May).

Najib, a Pre Condition for Repatriation

Pakistan based Afghan Interim Government's Prime Minister Abdul Rasool Sayyaf has said in an interview in Peshawar that the five million Afghan refugees living in Iran and Pakistan will not go back to their country, till Najib's government toppled.

According to an IRNA report, he rejected any negotiations with the ruling party of Afghanistan. He said that Afghan Mujahideen will continue their Jihad till the toppling of the communist regime in Kabul. (Radio Tehran, 14 June).

Compensation for Shelter Now International

The government of Pakistan has compensated the Shelter Now International relief agency which was attacked in April this year. The NWFP Chief Minister Mr. Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao gave a cheque for five million rupees, to the relief agency. On the occasion the Ambassadors of the United States and Australia, Afghan leaders and workers of other relief agencies were also present. Mr. Sherpao said in his statement that a group of disgruntled people carried out this attack to create differences between the government of Pakistan and foreign aid agencies and to pit the Afghans against Afghans. He also resolved to protect the life and property of the members of relief agencies functioning in the N.W.F.P. The US Ambassador in his address denied the allegation that the US administration had changed its policy about Afghanistan. He assured the Afghans that the US

assistance to the Afghans will continue till their safe and honourable return to their country. (BBC, 18 June).

Medical Facilities for Returnees/Refugees

The Afghan Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Nimatullah Punjwal held a meeting with members of the Afghan Refugees Commission. They discussed matters relating to the return of Afghan refugees, especially providing medical facilities to the returnees and distribution of relief supplies to them. (Radio Moscow, 21 June).

Soviet Prisoner Released

A Soviet soldier, Noor Mohammad Ashoar, who had been imprisoned by the Afghan opposition was got freed by the Security Forces on Jauza, 21 1369 in Baghlan province and was handed over by the Deputy Foreign Minister, Daud Kawian to the Soviet Parliamentary delegation today. (Radio Kabul, 16 June).

Red Cross Expands Area of its Activity

International Red Cross officials in the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul say they are extending their activities in rural areas because of increasing number of civilian casualties in the fighting between government and rebel forces. The Red Cross said that after long and delicate negotiations with the Afghan government and the guerilla groups it has now decided to move medical teams into areas controlled by both sides. (BBC, 17 June).

UNESCO Assistance Discussed

The Afghan Education Minister, Ms. Masooma Esmat Verdak met UNESCO's official Salman Abu Ali in Kabul

yesterday. They discussed UNESCO's assistance programme and the situation in Afghanistan. (Radio Moscow, 21 June).

Washington Summit and Superpowers Positions

BBC correspondent report from Washington that detailed talks between President Bush and Soviet President Gorbachev at their summit meeting on the Afghan question were held but consensus on the future of President Najibullah could not be reached. The United States and the Soviet Union both agreed that general elections be held in Afghanistan but there was difference of opinion on what should be the role of Najibullah. The Soviet stand was that Najibullah should continue as President and hand over power later to those who win the elections, while the United States insisted that Najibullah may contest elections but he should quit power prior to the elections. President Bush also urged President Gorbachev to convince Najibullah to relinquish power but he replied that the Soviet Union can not interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Afghanistan issue has assumed secondary position for the two super powers which could be assessed from the fact that the subject of stopping of arm supplies to the two parties was not even discussed at the summit meeting. (BBC, 6 June).

The meeting of the leaders of the United States and Soviet Union has now ended in Washington. The US envoy to the Afghan Resistance, Mr. Peter Tomsen has given a brief telephonic interview from the State Department to the VOA. Mr. Tomsen said that it is regretted that the summit conference did not reach any agreement on Afghanistan. Both Presidents and delegations of the two countries discussed this issue. Major obstacle in the way of the political settlement is Najib and Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The US stand is that the main reason for the continuation of war in Afghanistan is Najib and his party.

The Soviet Union has been providing the Kabul regime with assistance worth five billion dollars per annum although Najib has been rejected by the people and his future is extremely dark. Mr. Peter Tomsen said that their position continues to be that there must be elections in Afghanistan, the Afghan must be allowed to elect their leaders of their own choice and foreigners should not impose any government on them. (VOA, 5 June).

Secretary of State James Baker says the United States and the Soviet Union have made progress in ending the war in Afghanistan. Mr. Baker said the major issue separating the two sides is how much power Afghanistan's President Najibullah will have in a temporary government. (VOA, 14 June).

The United States has again said that it is in favour of multi-party general elections in Afghanistan. However, a State Department spokesman has said that the Afghan people did not want to take part in any elections under President Najibullah, as they hold him responsible for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and for violating human rights during his rule. The spokesman said that Najibullah should hand over power to an impartial transitional government before general elections. President Najibullah had said early this week that he has presented a proposal to the Soviet and US Presidents for introducing a multi-party system to be followed by general elections. (BBC, 30 June).

A ceasefire plan proposed by Afghanistan's President Najibullah has been rejected by the United States. A spokesman for the Secretary of State in Washington said the ceasefire would not be effective as long as Najibullah's regime was still in power. The Najibullah's ceasefire plan proposes an interim peace period where both government troops and the Mujahideen rebels would agree not to use certain weapons. (VOG, 30 June).

French Embassy Opened in Kabul

France has become the first western nation to have a diplomatic presence in Kabul since Soviet forces completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan in February last year. A French diplomat arrived in Kabul from Delhi to take up his post as Charge d' Affairs. (BBC, 18 June).

PDPA Renamed as 'Watan Party'

The Afghan ruler, Dr. Najibullah has changed the name of the Communist Party. The new name of the party will be Watan Party. This decision was made in the two-day congress of the ruling party. A new constitution has been drafted in which efforts have been made to give it a democratic colour by keeping aside characteristic of the Communist Party. The party infrastructure has been changed. An Executive Committee and Central Council have been established in place of Politburo and the Central Committee. However, most of the Communists who had been members of the Politburo and the Central Committee have again been inducted in the Executive Committee and the central Council of the Watan Party. The most striking thing is that the former Afghan ruler Babrak Karmal has been inducted in the Executive Committee of the new party. (VOG, 29 June).

Najib Elected as Chief of the Watan Party

President Najibullah was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Central Council of the Watan Party at a general meeting of the Central Council of the party today. At this session of the Congress Watan Party manifesto was also approved. Similarly during the session, 144 fullfledged members and 59 alternate members were elected to the Central Council of the Party. At a meeting of the Central

Council of the Watan Party, Raz Mohammad Paktin Sultan Ali Kishtmand, Sulaiman Laiq, Abdul Wakil, Ghulam Farooque Yaqubi, Farid Ahmed Mazdak, Mohammad Aslam Watanyar, Mohammad Rafi, Mehmoud Baryali, Najmuddin Kawyani, Nazar Mohammad and Noor Ahmed Noor were elected as fullfledged members and Syed Ikram Paigir and Abdul Quddus Ghorbandi as alternate members of the Executive Committee of the Central Council of Watan Party. Sultan Laiq, Farid Ahmed Mazdak, Nazar Mohammad and Najmuddin Kawyani as Vice Chairman of the Watan Party. (Radio Kabul, 28 June).

Najib and PDPA are Guilty

Afghan President Najibullah has admitted that his Afghan Peoples Democratic Party has been guilty in the past of torturing political opponents. The President made this admission on Wednesday at the Party's first congress for twenty-five years. According to President Najibullah the Party has been unduly focussed on left-wing political forces and wrongly advocated the central party system of government and has tortured political opponents. In the final part of his address, the Afghan leader called for re-organisation of the Afghan Peoples Democratic Party. (Radio Netherlands, 26 June).

President Najibullah has admitted that rulers of Afghanistan were ignorant of the true spirit of Islam. They had taken decisions and committed deeds which led to uprising of an Islamic movement in Afghanistan. According to an associated Press report from Islamabad, Radio Kabul announced that in the Second Congress meeting of the PDPA, Najibullah mentioned mistakes and errors of the party. The government controlled radio announced that he suggested that the name of the Party formed in 1964 should be changed and new name should be given to it. He said that Afghan

sentiments were not kept in mind and the party ignored Islam completely. (Radio Tehran, 28 June).

Kabul Seeks Membership in SAARC AND OIC

The Afghan Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil has said in New Delhi yesterday that in view of Pakistan's opposition, his country now really intended to seek membership of the SAARC and the Islamic Conference. Mr. Wakil said that despite Afghanistan's relations with a number of OIC countries, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are trying to prevent Afghanistan's entry into the organisation. Mr. Wakil condemned Pakistan's interference in Jammu and Kashmir and said that Afghanistan's stand on Kashmir would not change. (AIR, 14 June).

Najib Express Grief to Iranian President

The Afghan President Najibullah has sent a personal message to Iranian President Rafsanjani expressing shock and grief over the devastation caused by earthquake. The Afghan government has also approved a grant of 5000 dollars for the quake affected people. An official spokesman said in Kabul that as the country of Afghanistan itself was ruined due to war and as its resources were limited it was rendering a token assistance. President Najibullah and his Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil visited the Iranian Embassy in Kabul and signed the condolence book. (BBC, 24 June).

Comments By VOA

The Afghan President Najibullah has formed a new government and convened a Loya Jirga for bringing about amendments in the constitution. These steps have been taken at a time when the US and the Soviet President are starting their summit meeting in Washington. "Western diplomats in

Islamabad say that there is nothing new in these steps of Kabul regime. They say though only thirteen of the total thirty six new Ministers have been taken from the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan, yet all the important Ministries like Defence, State Security, Home and Information are occupied by the PDPA members. Najib also convened the Loya Jirga to approve certain amendments in the constitution, including reducing the role of the PDPA in the government and changing the name of the country to Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The amendments also include introduction of multi-party system and holding of free general elections. Western diplomats say that the fact that Loya Jirga continued only for two days show that this was not the real Jirga and Najib had only convened it for getting approval for what he wanted. Najib has also said that he has sent message to the US and the Soviet leaders about solution of Afghanistan problem but diplomats say that though contents of these messages have not been made public yet the statements issued by Najib show that these messages contain nothing new. (VOA, 30 June).

Comments By Radio Moscow

In recent years the government of Afghanistan has been seeking national reconciliation. To help achieve this goal, the ruling Peoples Democratic Party has drafted a new programme. A Radio Moscow correspondent comments:

The draft programme is setting the utmost goal of restoring peace in the war-ravaged economy and promoting democracy in politics by encouraging pluralism and activities of the various parties. Economically the programme calls for invigorating the four sectors of the economy: the state, private, mixed and cooperative sectors. It says private investment must be encouraged. The Party pledged to care for the social welfare of all the Afghan citizens and protect

their right to set up political parties and public organisations, free speech and free press. In foreign politics, it intends to develop relations with all countries especially the neighbouring Islamic States and attract foreign aid to restore and consolidate economy. The party doesn't qualify itself in terms of social classes over political and social system it aims to establish. It says it seeks support and shares the aspirations of the entire country. The programme was presented at a news conference in Kabul by a member of the party's political bureau and Party Secretary Farid Misdaq. (Radio Moscow, 7 June).

Kabul Look Towards UN

In a message, President Najibullah has lauded the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar for the political settlement of Afghanistan problem and has renewed Afghanistan's invitation for his visit to Kabul. (Radio Kabul, 20 June).

The Afghan National Assembly has asked the UN to convene an international conference on Afghanistan so that free election could be held in that country. In its appeal to the UN Secretary General Mr. Cuellar, the Afghan government has also asked for halt to arms to all the warring sides and demilitarization of that country. It added that a neutral and demilitarized Afghanistan would be in the national interest of the Afghan people. (AIR, 26 June).

Casualties by Rocket Attacks in Kabul

The Afghan authorities have given details of the guerilla rocket attacks and casualties thus caused since March 24 this year. A government spokesman said that four hundred and thirty six rockets were fired on the capital Kabul during this period as a result of which two hundred people, mostly

civilians, were killed and six hundred and fifty others injured. (BBC, 8 June).

Mujahideen Form a 'Committee for Political Settlement'

At the invitation of Sibghatullah Mujaddadi, President of Interim Government, a delegation of the prominent Afghan intellectuals and social and political personalities arrived in Peshawar from Europe, America, Iran and Saudi Arabia. The delegation formed a six-member committee on June 23. The Committee will consider ways and means to find a political settlement to the situation in Afghanistan and prepare a report for submission to delegates. The former Afghan Prime Minister, Dr. Mohammad Yousaf, former Vice President Dr. Abdul Samad Hamid, former Justice Minister Dr. Abdul Hakeem, former Minister for Information and Culture, Sabahuddin, former Deputy Planning Minister, Abdul Aziz Feroz and a representative of the Iran-based Mujahideen groups, Akhlaqi are members of the Committee. (VOA, 25 June).

Iran and Pakistan Based Mujahideen Expand Their Contacts

Leader of Jamiat-e-Islami Afghanistan, Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani met the Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati in Tehran yesterday.

While appreciating Iran for its complete support to the Afghan Mujahideen, he said that now the Afghan Mujahideen urgently needed unity and coordination in their ranks. He added that the only solution of the Afghan conflict is that all the Afghans should be included while deciding their future.

Dr. Velayati said that Afghanistan and Iran have much deep relations. He said that Afghanistan is now on the verge

of complete political change. He added that Afghan problem should not be separated from Iran. He said that Afghanistan is a member of Muslim Ummah and our neighbouring Muslim country. (Radio Tehran, 15 June).

In the leadership of Pir Syed Ahmad Gialani a meeting was held in Peshawar, yesterday with the representatives of the Wahdat-e-Islami Afghanistan. Representatives of Wahdat-e-Islami said talks with the Pakistan based Afghan Mujahideen leaders were positive. He said that talks ended in a friendly atmosphere. He said that all the Afghans should be taken into confidence for holding general elections in Afghanistan and all the warring factions should be given due representation in the arrangement for election. It may be recalled that a delegation of Wahdat-e-Islami Afghanistan had come to Pakistan with the Foreign Minister of Iran, Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati. (Radio Tehran, 22 June).

A Peshawar-based group of Afghan Mujahideen met the Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, on June 19. According to a report reaching from Islamabad, in the meeting which was attended by Burhanuddin Rabbani, Syed Ahmad Gialani, Qazi Amin Waqad, Maulvi Mohammad Nabi, Maulavi Nasrullah Mansur and Maulavi Moazzin, the Iranian Foreign Minister said unity and identity of views in the ranks of the Afghan Mujahideen is a pre-requisite for the future of Afghanistan. Mr. Velayati added that alliance among the Iran-based Mujahideen groups and formation of Wahdat-e-Islami is a prelude to the ultimate unity among all the Afghan Mujahideen and their consensus on the future of Afghanistan. (VIRA, 22 June).

Leader of the Iranian delegation said that some of his proposals have been dismissed by the Pakistan based Afghan groups on which further talks will be held. But both groups in Pakistan and Iran do agree on one point that Afghan

President Najibullah should have no role in these Afghan elections. Iran-based groups also want that the elections should be held under the United Nations supervision while the groups based in Pakistan want those elections under the aegis of Islamic Conference Organisation. Iran had proposed that a conference of Pakistan, Iran and both Afghan groups be held to chalk out an election formula. Pakistan is not in its favour because it thinks that any such conference will not prove useful till an agreement not reached between the Afghan groups and this also affect Pak-Iran ties. (BBC, 24 June).

A spokesman of the Iran-based Afghan Mujahideen Wahdat-e-Islami Afghanistan has said in an interview with an IRNA correspondent in Peshawar that we have discussed a lot of matters relating to Afghan conflict with the elders of the Afghan Mujahideen. He said that all leaders of the parties agreed that an All-Party Conference should be held to review the Afghan issue. He said that all leaders of political parties agreed to seek solution of the Afghan conflict. (Radio Tehran, 29 June).

2-ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION & RE-PATRIATION

Sadruddin's Views on 'Operation Salam'

The Daily Washington Post in its issue of April 13, carried an article on Afghanistan written by the UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan, Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan. In the article, the Prince has expressed his views regarding the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

In his article, the UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan, Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan has said that two years have passed to the signing of the Geneva Accords. The agreement signed by Pakistan and Kabul regime and also by the United States and the Soviet Union as guarantors paved the ground for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Aga Khan said that the ten years of war has brought destruction in Afghanistan. More than one million Afghans have been killed and more than five millions have migrated to the neighbouring countries. The UN Secretary General started a programme in the name of "Operation Salam" to assist in the repatriation of refugees to their country and reconstruction of Afghanistan. This programme was aimed to organising the UN humanitarian assistance affairs in which a number of countries have taken part and having a budget of more than one billion dollars. In his article in the Daily Washington Post, Sadrudin Aga Khan said that though peace was not restored in Afghanistan after the pull out of the Soviet troops from that country yet the interest of the Western countries in the Afghan problem seems to be decreasing. There is no doubt that one of the reasons of the decline in the interest is that Afghan refugees did not return to their country and the hopes of the Western countries in this regard were shattered. But it does not mean that they would not provide the budget which they have

reserved for the reconstruction of Afghanistan. The United Nations Organisation is making all out efforts to provide the Afghan returnees with assistance and facilitate rehabilitation in Afghanistan. Sadruddin Aga Khan said that they should realise that the Afghan refugees would not return to their country unless mines were cleared from roads and streets, hospitals and educational institutions and canals reconstructed. He said that some countries are now half heartedly providing assistance to the UN projects, as a result some basic and important works could not be carried out. He said that it is a strange situation because on the one hand, those countries which have pledged for assistance say that they would not provide money to the programme unless Afghan refugees return to their homeland and on the other, the refugees would not return to the country unless they are provided the basic assistance and their houses are reconstructed. Sadruddin Aga Khan said that one of the objectives of UN humanitarian and economic assistance programme was to establish peace zones. He said that the assistance programme should not be delayed and be left till the restoration of peace in Afghanistan. He said that this programme should be started before the restoration of peace.

The United Nations wants to declare a number of areas as peace zones so that links between humanitarian assistance and restoration of peace could be strengthened. Sadruddin Aga Khan said that there should be peace for the long time in an area so that the United Nations could supply a large number of assistance there. The local authorities should also support and assist these projects of the United Nations. When relief works would bring about prosperity in such areas then refugees would return and more such areas would be established. Sadruddin Aga Khan said that the frame-work of the relief programme of reconstruction of Afghanistan has been prepared. So far twenty thousand Afghans have been imparted training by the United Nations in defusing and

clearing mines. Thirty five thousand ton wheat has been sent to the poor people. Besides medical assistance has also been provided to the needy people. In his article carried by Washington Post, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan has said that now a question arises as to whether they should continue these assistance and join hands with the Afghans in the reconstruction of their life and country or should leave them to their own. Most of the observers are of the view that if the Afghans were not provided forthwith with assistance, they would also face the fates of the people of Lebanon, Vietnam and Mongolia. Aga Khan said that undoubtedly if foreign powers abandon political problems and help the future economic affairs of Afghanistan, the political and economic situation of Afghanistan would improve. He said that Afghans are very strong people and do not want any one to interfere in the internal affairs of their country. Now when they need humanitarian assistance, the world should listen to their voice. Sadruddin Aga Khan has concluded that all the people realise that the stone of unity and solidarity should be laid in Afghanistan. There is a possibility of the emergence of a situation in Afghanistan through the United Nations which would be acceptable to all the people. The situation would be that Afghanistan be an independent, non-aligned, self-sufficient state and extremist elements should not be imposed on it and the most important thing is that peace and stability be strengthened there. (VOA, April 14, 1990).

After the meeting of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan with the Pakistani authorities, several day back, it was reported that the United Nations wanted to establish peace zones in Afghanistan. These reports said that coordinator of the UN Humanitarian Assistance for Afghanistan, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan has also discussed the issue with the Mujahideen leaders. However, the Afghan interim government later expressed opposition to this UN plan. In this connection, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan and a Minister

of the interim government, Najibullah Lafrai were interviewed. Here is a report about these interviews:

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan said that there were now many regions in Afghanistan where the war has either been completely stopped or is occurring rarely. The attention of both the Pakistani authorities and the United Nations is focussed on these regions. He said there exist favourable conditions for rehabilitation of people and reconstruction of these regions. Prince Sadruddin added that the UN Plan for 1990 included measures to rehabilitate people in these areas, which he described as peace zones. He said that the areas will receive UN assistance where peace has restored for a fixed period and where the local authorities will allow the UN to start operations. Besides, he said, free passage to UN staff to these areas should be ensured and the Afghanistan authorities should cooperate in the implementation of the UN Plan. He claimed that during his talks with the leaders of the interim government, he received a positive response from them. However, when his attention was invited to a recent statement of Professor Sayyaf that this plan was an interference of the United Nations in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and that the refugees will not return to their country, until an Islamic government is formed in their country, Prince Sadruddin said, 'That may be his position but I do not think he would have consulted the refugees'.

He further said that they were not interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and have started reconstruction of Afghanistan with the consent of all the concerned sides. He added that two hundred projects were already being run. He reiterated that many Mujahideen leaders have told him that many parts of Afghanistan were now liberated and if these areas were cleaned from mines, they would not oppose the return of refugees.

However, rejecting this claim of Sadrudin Aga Khan, the Minister for Information and Propagation of the interim government, Dr. Najibullah Lafrai said that the press reports indicated that the interim government was in favour of this plan. But he said, this is not the fact. He said that Sadrudin Aga Khan had not discussed the issue with Professor Sayyaf and had only discussed with him the issue of supplying aid to internal refugees and Professor Sayyaf informed him about the conditions of the interim government in connection with establishing aid centre for the internal refugees. He said that the President of the interim government, Sibghatullah Mujaddadi had also expressed opposition to the plan of establishing peace zones. Dr. Lafrai said that his government is not checking the return of refugees to their country. He said that Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan and the special envoy of the UN Secretary General, Benon Sevan had not elaborated the plan for establishing peace zones and did not say, what they wanted but later their press statements, particularly of Benon Sevan revealed that the UN wanted to implement the national reconciliation policy of Najib, which he has failed to implement. Dr. Lafrai described the plan of establishing peace zones as dangerous, adding that it will, on the one hand, force the refugees to return to Najib's rule, which they hate and on the other, it will provide a chance for Najib to intensify propaganda against the Jihad. (VOA, April 6, 1990).

Pakistan Approves UN Repatriation Plan

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan has said that Pakistan government is ready to cooperate with the United Nations Organisation in the repatriation of the Afghan refugees to their country and establishment of peace zones.

According to AFP, in an interview, Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan disclosed that now-a-days effort's for the repatriation of

three million Afghan refugees to their motherland is included in an important programme of priorities of Ms Benazir Bhutto's government. He said that he is agreed with the UN Coordinator for Afghanistan, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan's point of view that waiting for a complete restoration of peace before the repatriation of Afghan refugees to their home is useless (Radio Tehran, 31 March).

Food Shortage in Central Afghanistan

In a statement issued in Peshawar, the spokesman of the Hizbullah group of Afghanistan, Ali Hasan Mohammadi has warned that the Afghan refugees based in Hazarajat area are facing famine.

The Central News reports from Islamabad suggest that the refugees were inhabitants of central Afghanistan but have gone to Hazarajat area due to fierce fighting. Ali Hasan Mohammadi has stressed on the need for immediate supply of food stuff to the area so that the refugees and particularly the children and aged people could survive. (Radio Tehran, 3 April).

UN Warns Refugees

High ranking UN officials have warned the Afghan refugees and stranded Afghans on Tuesday last that the food supplies for them were about to exhaust and they should start repatriation to their home country. The Chief Executive of the World Food Programme, James Angram (ph) has said that possibly the organisation can help them in food supply only in 1990 but it will not be possible for ever. (VIRA, 1 April).

UNICEF Assistance to Kabul

The Acting Minister for Reconstruction and promotion of villages, Engineer Ghulam Farooq Kubakaiwal has met the

Director of the Regional Office of UNICEF in Kabul today. Problems relating to the restoration of water supply to the Afghan villages, maternity problems and education were discussed during the meeting and the UNICEF office expressed readiness to extend help in these fields. (Radio Kabul, 21 April).

WFO Assistance for Kabul

The Minister for Village promotion, Ghulam Farooq Kabakaiwal met in his office today with the Director of World Food Organisation. Problems relating to the reconstruction and promotion of villages in Afghanistan were discussed during the meeting. The Director of World Food Organisation expressed the readiness of his organisation to extend food assistance for the Afghan villages. (Radio Kabul, 18 April).

U.S.S.R. Supply Food Stuffs

The people of Afghanistan are receiving continuous food supplies from the Soviet Union. The Afghan News Agency says three hundred and thirty truck load of wheat and flour were brought to Kabul in the past three days. A large part of the supply is being shared among people in the Opposition controlled areas. Last week food supply reached to six thousand residents of Baghlan. (Radio Moscow, 4 April).

Indian Aid

Indian government has announced medical assistance worth ten million rupees for the Afghan Public Health Ministry. This assistance includes medicines and medical instruments. The first consignment of seven tonnes of medicines has arrived in Kabul. (Radio Kabul, 22 April).

Rehabilitation of Disabled, Crippled People of Afghanistan War

A list of those who have become disabled in the Afghanistan war has been compiled. Here is a VOA report.

More than ten and a half thousand people who have been crippled and handicapped in Afghanistan war have so far been registered. Their identification and registration work is in progress. Similar project will also be started soon in Wardak, Kunar and Takhar Provinces. According to the Afghan interim government news agency, the Ministry of Health established in December last a department of psychiatry under the supervision of Dr. Nasir. This department was entrusted with the task of compiling list of crippled and handicapped and providing them with aid and rehabilitation. Dr. Nasir has reported that 10625 persons have so far been registered. A monthly stipend of Rs. 500 to 1000, for each disabled man has been fixed. Identity cards have also been issued to these people. He said that economic resources of this department are very limited. The interim government provides only fifty-eight million rupees for annual expenditure and this amount too is going to be reduced.

The department wants to establish hospitals in the areas which are under the Mujahideen control in the provinces of Kabul, Kandahar, Ningarhar, Mazar Sharif, Kanduz, Baghlan, Parwan, Herat, Bamyán and Paktia, Dr. Nasir disclosed that the government of Saudi Arabia was to provide aid for a planned factory of artificial limbs. This factory is to be established soon. He said that the United Nations and other International Relief Agencies have also promised to provide assistance for this humanitarian project. (VOA, 17 April).

NGO's in Trouble

Representative of several organisations providing aid to Afghanistan's millions of war refugees will meet tomorrow in Peshawar to decide what to do about violence in refugee camps.

Meanwhile, a French aid group said it is suspending its operations in Afghanistan after one of its medical aid workers was shot dead in Northern Afghanistan's Badakhshan province. According to various private aid workers and officials, donors have become somewhat nervous and the organisations themselves want to assess the situation following the April 26th incident at a Peshawar refugee camp. On that day a mob of some five thousand people ransacked a project of "Shelter Now International", an Australian based Christian Aid Organisation. The rampage at the Nasar Bagh camp caused nearly one million dollars worth of damage as tons of powdered milk were destroyed and burnt. The Australian government suspended its donation to 'SHELTER NOW' following the incident. The attack occurred after some inflammatory statements were made at a nearly Mosque about the group's programmes for women at the camp.

One knowledgeable private aid official called the incident a fake event and said that sense of insecurity and frustration among many of the three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan about Afghanistan's future may be having what he termed a spill over effect on humanitarian aid effort. Relief workers said no one is yet talking about dropping their aid programmes. (VOA, 9 May).

Another worker of International relief agency has been killed in Afghanistan. The twenty-seven year old, Mr. Fadrik Galon is reported to have been shot dead by some un-identified

armed men in north-eastern Afghan Province of Badakhshan. (BBC, 9 May).

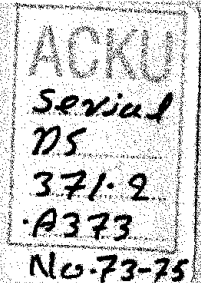
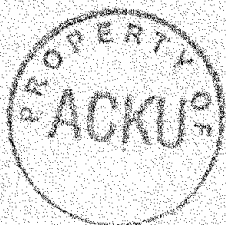
A Protocol Signed

A protocol on the exploration of oil and gas and revival of the gas exports to Soviet Union, was signed in Kabul today. The protocol was signed on behalf of Afghan government by the Deputy Minister of Mines and Industries, and Deputy Chief of the Soviet Imports and Exports Organisation. (Radio Kabul, 13 May).

Indian Assistance

The Afghan Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Wakil today held a meeting in Kabul with the visiting Indian delegation headed by the Joint Secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, Mr. Shanktaran.

The Indian delegation is in Kabul to discuss preparations for the 9th session of the Afghan-Indian Joint Commission on economic and technical cooperation. (Radio Kabul, 30 May).



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